COLD WORE: Russian-inspired fashion will make you a czar | **Page 33**

express

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Tuesday

BRAD NORTON/KEARNEY HUB/AP

Daniel Caruthers shovels his walk in Nebraska.

Snowbound: Storm strands holiday travelers in Midwest | 4

No Confidence: Canada's government falls after vote | 9

Loaiza Leaves: Nats lose pitcher to big contract in Oakland | 14

ENTERTAINMENT

Shake It: *Shakira* gets into the groove in two languages. Also, the Darkness; keeping an eye on 'Narnia'; TV bloggers.

>> 15-21

Weather >> Windy, Rain

64 | 48

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE 31

GUILTY PLEA | CROOKED CONGRESSMAN RESIGNS

DENIS POROY/AP

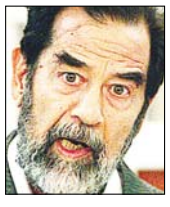
TEARFUL RETREAT: Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, left, walks away from the press after a statement Monday in San Diego. The California Republican admitted he took $2.4 million in bribes in exchange for government favors. ✤ **'I broke the law':** Disgraceful end for ex-flying ace | **Page 3**

Saddam Decries 'Invaders'

Trial adjourns as defense seeks to replace slain lawyers

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | A combative Saddam Hussein lashed out Monday at his treatment by American "occupiers and invaders" and lectured the chief judge about leadership as his trial resumed in a rambling and unfocused session.

Two of the seven other defendants also spoke out during the 2 ½-hour hearing, complaining of their treatment in detention or dissatisfaction with their court-appointed counsel.



Saddam

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who has joined the defense team as an adviser, said it was "extremely difficult" to assure fairness in the trial "because the passions in the country are at a fever pitch."

"How can you ask a witness to come in when there's a death threat?" Clark told CNN. "Unless there's protection for the defense, I don't know how the trial can go forward."

The tribunal adjourned until Dec. 5, only 10 days before the country's parliamentary elections, to give the defense time to replace lawyers who have been assassinated since the trial opened Oct. 19. Monday was the trial's second session.

The court's tolerance of vocal complaints from the defendants drew sharp criticism from Shiite politicians who contend the tribunal is trying too hard to accommodate an ousted dictator who should have already been convicted and executed. HAMZA HENDAWI (AP)

Council to Review Stadium Deal

WASHINGTON | The District government plans to submit to the D.C. Council for approval a lease agreement between the city and Major League Baseball over a new stadium for the Washington Nationals, City Administrator Robert C. Bobb said Monday.

Bobb's promise, made during an ongoing council oversight hearing on baseball matters, sets up another tenuous December for boosters of the $535 million stadium project along the Anacostia River in Southeast. After a bitter debate, the council passed the stadium-financing package last December by a 7-6 vote.

City negotiators reiterated that they are close to wrapping up the lease agreement with baseball that will set the terms by which the Nationals rent the stadium, which is being built largely with public money. The District needs the lease to issue construction bonds on Wall Street.

Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig has said he will not sell the Nationals to one of eight bidders until the lease is finalized. DAVID NAKAMURA AND THOMAS HEATH (THE WASHINGTON POST)

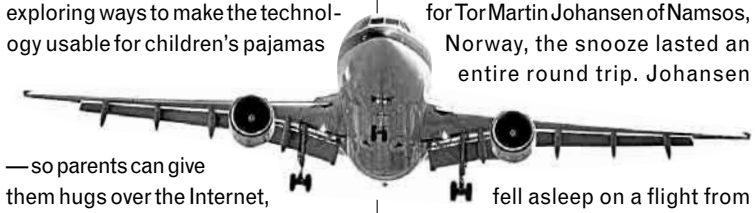
NAMESAKES | **Scandal in McDonaldland** It sounds like a high-profile case of corporate espionage — Ronald McDonald caught robbing a Wendy's. OK, so the name of the man police say took money Monday from a Manchester, N.H., Wendy's restaurant safe is actually Ronald MacDonald (slightly different from that of the clown's), but still. MacDonald — an employee at the Wendy's — and another worker were caught stealing by the manager and arrested, officials said. (AP) **EyeOpeners** | Page 2

eyeOpeners

E-EVERYTHING

The Kids Surely Won't Know the Difference

Singapore scientists have built a vibration jacket for chickens and are now exploring ways to make the technology usable for children's pajamas



— so parents can give them hugs over the Internet, the Straits Times reported. The jacket is controlled by computer and gives the feeling of being touched, Nanyang Technological University researchers said, and could be operated by online command as well. "Parents go on a lot of business trips, but with children, hugging and touching are very important," scientist Adrian David Cheok said. The pajama suit would adjust to changes in pressure and temperature to simulate a hug. (EXPRESS)

YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE

Come Fly the Familiar Skies

It's not uncommon for airline passengers to doze off during their flight. But for Tor Martin Johansen of Namsos, Norway, the snooze lasted an entire round trip. Johansen fell asleep on a flight from Trondheim, Norway, to Namsos on Thursday. When he woke up, he was back in Trondheim. "I heard the cabin attendant say 'Welcome to Trondheim' when I opened my eyes and thought I had arrived in Namsos," he said. When the plane landed in Namsos, no one noticed the sleeping passenger who remained on the plane or reacted when the number of people on board did not match up with the return-trip passenger manifest. (AP)

MARTIN SCHALK/AP

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Whoa Ho Ho

He's making a list, checking it twice, gonna find out who's naughty and nice, then send these terrifying demon spirits after the naughty ones. Not part of the Santa story you remember? You must not be from Austria. There, kids are told that "Krampusses" — portrayed here in a Hallein holiday parade on Sunday — accompany St. Nick to punish the bad children. The march of the Krampusses, an Advent tradition with hundreds of freaky costumes this year, drew several thousand people. (AP)

SNOBS

Mmm, This Imaginary Whisky Is So Smooth

Hundreds of whisky fanatics have paid $3,200 for a single-malt that has yet to be made. In fact, the distillery hasn't even been built. A planned distillery in Fife, England — as of now, a rundown hayloft — has already signed up more than 300 customers for whisky that won't be ready until 2017, United Press International reported. Buyers have received architectural plans for the $4.6 million distillery, to be built by 2007. (EXPRESS)

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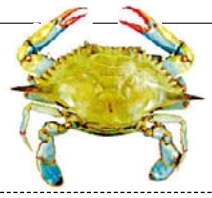
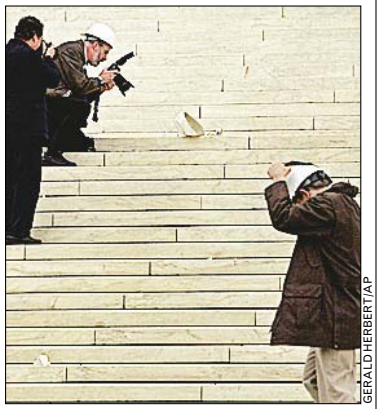


LET THEM EAT CRABS: Crabbers along the California coast's three main ports reopened crab season Saturday following a lengthy price dispute with area seafood processors. The tiff shut down operations during one of the year's most profitable periods.

Nation

In Brief



GERALD HERBERT/AP

Officials examine chunks of marble that fell from the Supreme Court's facade.

WASHINGTON

Chunk of Marble Falls on Steps of Supreme Court

A basketball-sized piece of Vermont marble molding fell from the facade over the entrance to the Supreme Court Monday, landing on the steps near visitors waiting to enter the building. The chunk was part of the dentil molding that serves as a frame for figures completed in 1935. No one was hurt. (AP)

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

School Recruits Students Interested in Petroleum

The University of Alaska Fairbanks wants to snag a greater share of students seeking to study petroleum engineering. The school is relying on a recently hired recruitment coordinator and two part-time telemarketers to double enrollment. Twenty-eight undergraduates and 18 graduate students are enrolled in the UAF program. (AP)

Cunningham Resigns Amid Scandal

Calif. congressman admits to accepting $2.4 million in bribes

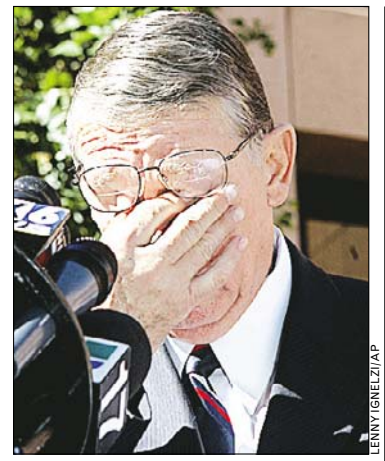
SAN DIEGO | Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, an eight-term congressman and hotshot Vietnam War fighter jock, pleaded guilty to graft and tearfully resigned Monday, admitting he took $2.4 million in bribes mostly from defense contractors in exchange for government business and other favors.

"The truth is I broke the law, concealed my conduct, and disgraced my office," the 63-year-old Republican said at a news conference.

He could get up to 10 years in prison at sentencing Feb. 27 on federal charges of conspiracy to commit bribery and fraud, and tax evasion.

Investigators said Cunningham, a member of a House Appropriations subcommittee that controls defense dollars, secured contracts worth tens of millions of dollars for those who paid him off. Prosecutors did not identify the defense contractors.

Cunningham was charged in a case that grew out of an investigation into the sale of his home to a defense contractor at an inflated price. The congressman had already announced in July — after the investigation became public — that he would not seek re-election next year. But until he entered his plea, he had insisted he had done nothing wrong. ELLIOT SPAGAT (AP)



LENNY IGNELZI/AP

Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, R-Calif., cries while resigning Monday.

Business as Usual?

→ After years of big-dollar dealings, lobbyists and lawmakers are now facing what could be a wave of prosecutions in the courts and an uprising at the ballot box | **Today's AI**

IN The Washington Post

KATRINA RECOVERY | BACK TO SCHOOL

CHUCK BURTON/AP

FIRST DAY: Assistant Superintendent Darryl Kilbert, left, walks with students at Benjamin Franklin Elementary school in New Orleans on the first day of school Monday. It was the first public school to open since Hurricane Katrina.

Bush Pushes Overhaul Of Immigration Policy

TUSCON, ARIZ. | President Bush said Monday he wants to crack down on those who enter the country illegally but also give out more visas to foreigners with jobs, a dual plan he hopes will appease the social conservatives and business leaders who are his core supporters.

"The American people should not have to choose between a welcoming society and a lawful society," Bush said Monday from the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base near the Mexican border. "We can have both at the same time."

The touchy issue of immigration has divided lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said he will bring up the issue early next year. The House hopes to tackle some border security measures before adjourning for the year, but little time remains and it has other issues on its plate.

Bush also was pitching his plan in Arizona and Texas on Tuesday, two border states that are home to Republican senators who have been vocal on the need to change immigration laws. Bush said he plans to include providing border agents with cutting-edge technology and adding physical barriers to entry. NEDRA PICKLER (AP)

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Nation

$5K **The amount** members of the Louisiana Coushattas Indian tribe claim lobbyist Jack Abramhoff asked them to donate to aid in securing rights to a casino.

CONNIE JO DISCOE/AP

SNOWBOUND: A city loader clears snow from a street in downtown McCook, Neb., Monday morning. Blizzards dumped more than six inches of snow on the region Sunday, stranding holiday travelers and paralyzing large stretches of highway.

Snowstorms Lash Plains

Unforgiving conditions strand holiday travelers across Midwest states

DENVER | Travelers trying to get home after Thanksgiving were stranded across the Plains on Monday as the region's first big snowstorm of the season closed hundreds of miles of highways, cutting visibility to zero and piling up drifts 6 feet high.

Snow driven by wind up to 69 mph fell from North Dakota to the Texas Panhandle, shutting down schools, post offices and the South Dakota state government.

Four deaths were blamed on slippery roads in South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas, and a fifth person was killed when tornado picked up and hurled a car in Arkansas.

Eastbound lanes of Interstate 70 were closed for nearly 350 miles from Denver across the Plains to Russell, Kan. Westbound lanes were reopened in some areas.

"We're just waiting," said Corey Dagner, who was stuck in Limon, Colo., on his way home to Illinois after attending a wedding at the Breckenridge ski resort. "Nobody's sure what's going on and what time they're going to open the interstate."

Almost 1,000 people spent Sunday night in shelters along I-70, said Joy Moser, a spokeswoman for the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. Even though the blizzard warning for northwest and north-central Kansas expired Monday afternoon, shelters remained open in anticipation of more stranded travelers.

DAN ELLIOTT (AP)

FAA Official Requests Mediators in Labor Talk

WASHINGTON | The nation's top aviation official Monday called for federal mediators to intervene in talks between the government and air traffic controllers, but the union says there's no reason for it because the talks are progressing.

FAA Administrator Marion Blakey said little progress had been made in the talks, which began in July.

"Their current proposal does not recognize the hard realities of an industry that is in financial trouble," she said during a news conference.

Ruth Marlin, executive vice president for the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, called Blakey's statement "a publicity stunt" and said mediation isn't necessary because the two sides are finding agreement on many issues aside from salary.

Blakey

LESLIE MILLER (AP)

Fla. Man Arrested In Family Slaying

MYAKKA, FL | A 20-year-old man was arrested Sunday in the slayings of his parents, younger brother and elderly grandmother, whose bodies were found bludgeoned to death in the family home, authorities said.

Richard Edgar Henderson Jr. told detectives late Sunday that he had beaten his family to death with a pipe on Thanksgiving evening, Manatee County Sheriff Charlie Wells told the Sarasota Herald-Tribune.

He was being charged with four counts of murder and was jailed Sunday night without bond, authorities said. (AP)

Nation

Bow-Tied Vandals Blamed for Arson

Officials say series of liquor store attacks could be hate crimes

OAKLAND, CALIF. | A liquor store was heavily damaged by an apparent arson fire Monday, just days after it was trashed by well-dressed vandals who told the owners to stop selling to black people, authorities said.

Police had no suspects in the fire and refused to say whether they believed the blaze at New York Market was connected to vandalism last week at the store and the nearby San Pablo Market and Liquor in West Oakland.

Workers at both stores said that a group of about a dozen men dressed in suits and bow ties stormed into the shops, smashed liquor bottles and knocked over racks of food. At least one attack was captured on a video surveillance camera.

The men, all of whom were black, told the owners to stop selling alcohol to black people, authorities said.

Investigators were looking into the incidents as hate crimes because most liquor stores in the area are owned by Arabs or Arab-Americans, authorities said.

Minister Tony Muhammad, West Coast leader for the Nation of Islam, has spoken out against allegations the group was connected to the vandalism and condemned the acts.

Oakland police said the group, known for wearing suits and bow ties, was not under investigation. (AP)

WASHINGTON | CHRISTMAS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

RON EDMONDS/AP

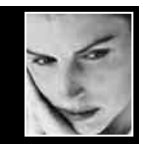
O TANNENBAUM: First lady Laura Bush receives the White House Christmas Tree on Monday from Margaret, left, and Earl Deal of Laurel Springs, N.C. The tree, an 18½-foot Fraser fir, will be displayed in the Blue Room.

La. Officials: Congress Stingy With Aid

NEW ORLEANS, LA | Congress hasn't given the same attention and aid to states slammed by hurricanes Katrina and Rita as it did to New York after the 2001 terror attacks because the storms didn't spark as much patriotism, say Louisiana's economic officials.

State Economic Development Secretary Michael J. Olivier estimates Louisiana will need between $100 billion and $200 billion to rebuild New Orleans and other devastated parts of the state. (AP)

Feeling Really Down?



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World

China Mine Blast Kills 134

Rescuers search for 15 still missing as nation's mining death-toll soars

QITAIHE, CHINA | Anxious relatives demanded to be allowed into a coal mine Monday after an explosion killed at least 134 miners and left 15 others missing, adding to a soaring death toll in China's mines despite a safety crackdown.

The blast in the Dongfeng Coal Mine prompted national leaders to demand stricter enforcement of safety rules in China's mining industry, by far the world's deadliest, with more than 5,000 fatalities a year in fires, floods and other accidents.

The disaster late Sunday came as the nearby city of Harbin was struggling to recover from a toxic spill in a river that forced the government to cut off water supplies for five days.

Rescuers had found 74 miners alive by Monday, the official Xinhua News Agency said. It said 134 miners died in the explosion and a team of 269 rescuers was searching for 15 others, but gave no indication whether they were believed to be alive. JOE MCDONALD (AP)

CUI FENG/XINHUA NEWS/AP

NEW DISASTER: A trapped miner is helped out after the blast in Qitaihe City, China, Monday. The government said the explosion was blamed on coal dust that ignited.

Russia Readies for China's Toxic Spill

MOSCOW | Russia's emergency agency said Monday it was mounting a quick response to a toxic chemical spill flowing downriver from China that is expected to reach Russia's far-eastern regions early next month.

The Emergency Situations Ministry said the benzene spill from the Nov. 13 chemical plant explosion in Jilin could affect 70 Russian cities and villages with a total of more than 1 million residents along the Amur river.

The ministry said in a statement Monday that it was preparing to switch off running water and was to airlift activated carbon for use in water treatment facilities to help absorb the spill. (AP)

Putin Allies Appear to Dominate Chechen Vote

GROZNY, RUSSIA | President Vladimir Putin on Monday hailed Chechnya's first parliamentary election since Russian troops reinvaded the Caucasus region six years ago, with preliminary results indicating the pro-Kremlin party had won a strong majority.

Doubts persisted, however, over the legitimacy of the vote, which even pro-Moscow Chechen President Alu Alkhanov acknowledged had been flawed. In Grozny, Alkhanov told reporters it would be years before the region would hold truly democratic elections.

Chechnya has been plagued by persistent violence, rampant abductions, endemic unemployment and two separatist wars in the past decade. Sunday's election was a key part of the Kremlin argument that normalcy is returning.

Speaking at a Cabinet session Monday, Putin said the elections had "completed the legal procedures of restoration of constitutional order" in the region.

Putin

He acknowledged that the government had yet to normalize the regional situation, saying "we still need to do a lot of work to remove destabilizing factors." MIKE ECKEL (AP)

Warring Darfur Factions Meet for New Peace Talks

ABUJA, NIGERIA | Two rival factions of the main Darfur rebel group will both be represented at a new round of talks aimed at ending the fighting in Sudan, an African Union official said Monday.

A split in the Sudanese Liberation Movement has been blamed for an upsurge in violence in Darfur and had proved an obstacle during the last round of AU-mediated talks. The talks are set to resume Tuesday.

After decades of low-level tribal clashes in Darfur, rebels from ethnic African tribes launched a large-scale conflict in early 2003, accusing the Arab-dominated central government of neglect. (AP)

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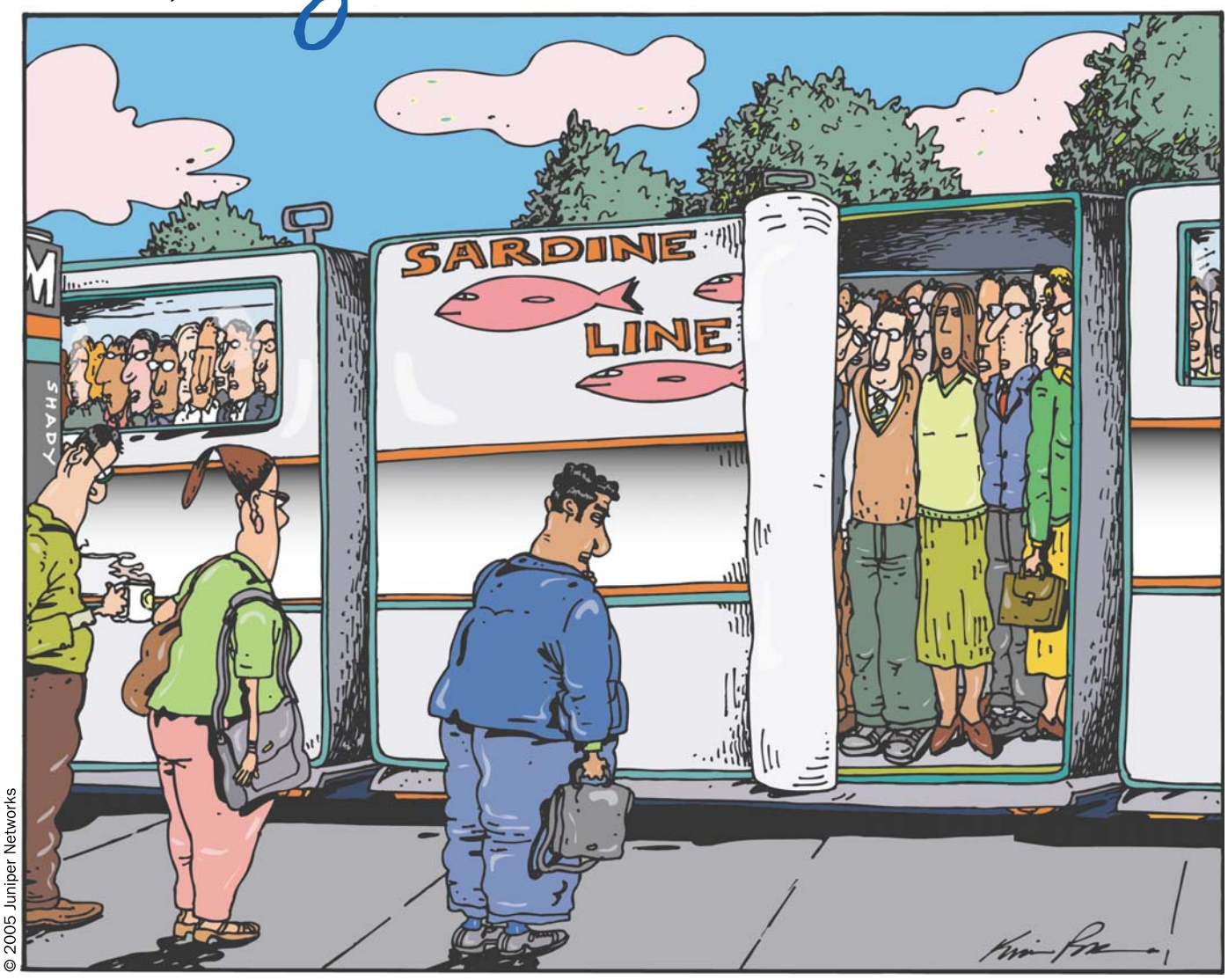

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It was Tuesday, 6:35 in the morning at the Shady Grove Station, when Ted had an epiphany concerning the advantages of telecommuting.

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ANIMAL HEIST: As if Gaza didn't have enough to contend with — now it has a lion on the loose. Masked gunmen broke into the Gaza Strip zoo and stole a lion cub as well as two parrots that were prized for their ability to speak several words in Arabic.

In Brief

IBRAHEEM ABU MUSTAFA/REUTERS

Palestinian gunmen fired into the air around some polling places in Gaza.

KHAN YOUNIS, GAZA STRIP

Crucial Primary Halted After Gunmen Disrupt Voting

The ruling Fatah Party canceled its primary in Gaza at the end of a full day of voting Monday after gunmen disrupted at least a dozen polling places, firing in the air and stealing some ballot boxes. The vote Monday was part of the first-ever primary held by Fatah, a democratic reform considered crucial to removing the taint of corruption from the party. The primary would have to be rescheduled, possibly for Friday, spokesman Deab Allouh said. (AP)

YANGON, MYANMAR

Suu Kyi's Party Confirms Extension of House Arrest

Myanmar's military government has extended the house arrest of Aung San Suu Kyi, the pro-democracy leader who has spent most of the last 16 years in detention and remains in virtual solitary confinement, her political party confirmed Monday. A statement from the National League for Democracy said it was unable to confirm the length of the extension, although under the law being applied, it would be one year. (AP)

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Report: Management, Funds Hobble Fight Against AIDS

AIDS activists said Monday that mismanagement, bureaucracy and inadequate funding have kept the world from meeting the goal of providing treatment to 3 million people infected by HIV/AIDs by the end of the year. The International Treatment Preparedness Coalition said the goal fell short by at least a million people. The United Nations has acknowledged that the goal set by its World Health Organization will not be met. (AP)

New Surge of Quake Deaths Feared

Weather claims first life among Pakistanis who remain homeless

BAGH, PAKISTAN | Subfreezing temperatures and the first snowfall in Kashmir claimed the life of an infant Monday — the first reported victim of what officials fear will be a new disaster for millions of Pakistanis left homeless by an earthquake.

"This is exactly what we had feared. Our position here is we need to continue to do as much as possible to help mitigate this situation and prevent, insofar as that's possible, any such occurrences in the future," said Stephanie Bunker of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Another United Nations official, Elisabeth Byrs, said the relief effort remains underfunded and that, according to the Pakistani military, at least 300,000 people remain inaccessible in remote Himalayan regions. None have tents, she said.

Troops and aid workers are building shelters as fast as they can. But with heavy rains and a fresh blanket of snow heralding the onset of the region's harsh winter, it is not fast enough for those who have been living rough since the Oct. 8 earthquake that killed more than 87,000 people.

Stoves and corrugated iron sheeting also are urgently required, as many tents are not winterized, Byrs said. So far, the U.N. has received $216 million in relief funds, only 39 percent of its appeal for $550 million. STEVE GUTTERMAN (AP)

MIAN KHURSHEED/REUTERS

LEFT IN RUINS: A young Kashmiri earthquake survivor sit on the debris of his destroyed house in Miani Bandi village near Muzaffarabad, Pakistan, on Monday.

Canada's Martin Falls In No-Confidence Vote

Corruption scandal leads opposition to force January election

TORONTO | A corruption scandal forced a vote of no-confidence Monday that toppled Prime Minister Paul Martin's minority government, triggering an unusual election campaign during the Christmas holidays.

Canada's three opposition parties, which control a majority in Parliament, voted against Martin's government, claiming his Liberal Party no longer has the moral authority to lead the nation.

The loss means an election for all 308 seats in the lower House of Commons, likely on Jan. 23. Martin and his Cabinet would continue to govern until then.

Opposition leaders last week called for the no-confidence vote after Martin rejected their demands to dissolve Parliament in January and hold early elections in February. Monday's vote follows a flurry of spending announcements in Ottawa last week, with the government trying to advance its agenda ahead of its demise.

The opposition is banking on the public's disgust with a corruption scandal involving the misuse of funds targeted for a national unity program in Quebec.

An initial investigation absolved Martin of wrongdoing, but accused senior Liberal members of taking kickbacks and misspending millions in public funds. ROB GILLIES (AP)

TOM HANSON/CP/AP

Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin leaves Parliament after Monday's vote.

HEARSAY | IDENTITY CRISIS

"Today, states collapse not because of [military] regiments but because they forget their language, culture and traditions."

—UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT VIKTOR YUSHCHENKO
SPEAKING AT A CONFERENCE IN KIEV MONDAY ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING THE EX-SOVIET REPUBLIC'S CULTURAL IDENTITY

Iraqi Gunmen Kill 2 British Pilgrims

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | Gunmen ambushed a bus Monday carrying British Muslims to Shiite shrines, killing two Britons and wounding three. The U.S. Embassy confirmed an American is missing in Iraq — presumably one of four aid workers who disappeared over the weekend.

Also Monday, two Sunni Arab politicians were slain in separate attacks — part of an escalation of violence that U.S. and Iraqi officials predicted in advance of Dec. 15 parliamentary elections.

The attack on the pilgrims took place in the southwestern Baghdad neighborhood of Dora, one of the most dangerous parts of the capital. The victims were en route to Shiite holy cities of Karbala, Najaf and Kufa, according to friends in Britain.

Deputy Interior Minister Hussein Kamal said authorities had no leads into the weekend disappearance of four Western humanitarian workers. No group has claimed responsibility and details of the apparent kidnapping were unclear. (AP)

MOHAMMED ADNAN/AP

A U.S. Humvee stops near the wreckage of a car bomb in Baqouba, Iraq.

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Money

JEFF ZELEVANSKY/REUTERS

Merck & Co. will soon lose patent protection on its popular cholesterol drug, Zocor.

Merck Plans to Slash 7,000 Jobs

TRENTON, N.J. | Embattled drugmaker Merck & Co. said Monday it will cut 7,000 jobs — 11 percent of its work force — and close or sell five manufacturing plants in the first phase of a reorganization meant to save up to $4 billion by the end of the decade.

The announcement, anticipated by Wall Street, comes as Merck faces the loss of patent protection in June for its blockbuster cholesterol drug Zocor and thousands of lawsuits over its recalled painkiller Vioxx.

Zocor now generates about 20 percent of Merck revenues and is the world's second-biggest drug. Because of the coming competition from generic drug makers, Merck expects Zocor sales to drop to $2.3 billion to $2.6 billion in 2006 from $4.2 billion to $4.5 billion this year.

Merck said the cuts, which are expected to be completed by the end of 2008, are intended to reduce the company's cost structure and enhance competitiveness. Merck has slipped from the world's third biggest pharmaceutical company to No. 5 in recent years. (AP)

In Brief

WASHINGTON

Home Sales Tumble 2.7%, But Prices Continue to Rise

Sales of existing homes fell a bigger-than-expected 2.7 percent in October, a fresh sign that the red-hot housing market is cooling. The decline would have been worse without increased demand from displaced hurricane victims. Though prices rose at the fastest clip in more than a quarter-century, the number of unsold homes rose to the highest level in 19 years. The National Association of Realtors reported Monday that sales of existing homes and condominiums fell by 2.7 percent in October, more than double the 1.1 percent decline analysts expected. (AP)

WASHINGTON

Report: China Not Using Yuan to Manipulate Markets

The Bush administration on Monday determined that China was not manipulating its currency to gain economic advantages but still pressed the Chinese to move more quickly to allow the yuan's value to be set by market forces. The administration's analysis, made in a currency report given to Congress, disappointed critics who contend that Chinese currency practices play a large role in America's soaring trade deficits. (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
MedStaff	5.65	+.85	+17.7
Pier 1	13.36	+1.63	+13.9
LLE Ry	3.36	+.39	+13.1
SeaContB	13.00	+.84	+6.9
Thor Ind	37.93	+2.24	+6.3

Losers

Jeffries	43.02	-4.75	-9.9
Angelic	13.63	-1.31	-8.8
CBOT n	94.80	-9.20	-8.8
Todco	41.65	-4.03	-8.8
ParTch	31.77	-3.01	-8.7

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
iVOW rs	4.32	+1.71	+65.5
SilcLtd	7.77	+1.79	+29.9
ChinaESv n	7.66	+1.51	+24.6
TII Ntwk	3.72	+.68	+22.4
InPlay	2.53	+.39	+18.2

Losers

AmPharm	39.25	-8.36	-17.6
Quotesmth	2.60	-.46	-15.0
DigRiver	23.90	-3.65	-13.2
RioVistEn	4.86	-.73	-13.1
Margo s	5.60	-.80	-12.5

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
-40.90	-23.64	-10.79
-0.37	-1.04	-0.85
10890.72	2239.37	1257.46

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	7.00	7.00
Fed Funds close	4.0625	4.00
3-month	3.90	3.90
2-year	4.32	4.39
10-year	4.41	4.47
30-year	4.62	4.66

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5771	.5834	.5277
Canadian Dollar	1.1678	1.1691	1.1768
European Euro	.8422	.8530	.7524
Japanese Yen	118.57	119.58	102.56
Mexican Peso	10.5460	10.5920	11.2550
Taiwanese Dollar	33.60	33.55	32.08

Biotech Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
Amgen	81.33	-1.46	+26.8
Amylin	37.50	-.94	+60.5
BiogenIdc	43.42	-1.07	-34.8
Celgene	60.77	-1.66	+129.1
ChRvLab	44.59	-.14	-3.1
Chiron	44.22	-.18	+32.7
Genentch	94.97	-2.28	+74.4
Genzyme	74.22	-.95	+27.8
GileadSci	52.12	-2.11	+49.0
Imclone	33.06	-.03	-28.3
Invitrogn	62.36	-.70	-7.1
MedImun	35.56	-.70	+31.2
MillPhar	10.77	-.10	-11.3
ProtDsg	27.80	-.89	+34.6
VertxPh	25.35	-.69	+139.8

CARDED: Fairfax police arrested Kevin Downs of New York, who they say was planning to use credit cards with the names of people who filled out credit applications at his kiosk last week in Potomac Mills mall last week in exchange for Teddy Bears and blankets.

Local

In Brief

RICHMOND, VA.

Barge Filled With Hot Liquid Asphalt Runs Aground

A barge filled with more than 1 million gallons of hot liquid asphalt ran aground Monday morning, leaking approximately 8,400 gallons of its load into the James River, officials said. Firefighters and hazardous materials crews from Chesterfield and Henrico counties, as well as a private cleanup contractor, were working to contain the spill. (AP)

WHEATON, MD.

Mother Faces Charges for False Abduction Report

A 22-year-old woman faced possible charges Monday after admitting to police she falsely claimed she and her five-year-old son were abducted by her boyfriend from a Wheaton Metro station. Sara Hernandez-Torres and her son, Isaac Hernandez, were found unharmed Monday morning at a Rockville home with the boyfriend, Carlos Delcid, 41, police said. Montgomery County Police spokeswoman Lucille Baur said Hernandez-Torres did not want her family to know that she was with Delcid. (AP)

RICHMOND, VA

Bus Slams Into Interim State Capitol; 2 Injured

A city bus careened off a busy downtown street Monday, glanced off the interim state Capitol and crashed into another state building, gashing a large hole in its brick facade. The building houses the offices of Gov. Mark R. Warner and his Cabinet, and will be home to the General Assembly in January. The legislature is not in session and Warner was in New York at the time. No one in the building was injured. (AP)

EVA RUSSO/RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH/AP

Authorities stabilize a Richmond GRTC bus Monday after it crashed into a government building on Broad Street.

McDonnell Certified Top Cop in Va.

Recount seems likely in race decided by 323 votes

RICHMOND, VA. | The closest statewide election in modern Virginia history was headed for a recount Monday after the State Board of Elections certified Bob McDonnell as the winner of the attorney general's race by a scant 323 votes.

Democratic Sen. Creigh Deeds of Bath County said he will petition for a recount Tuesday morning in Richmond Circuit Court.

"Votes will change in a recount, and it won't take many votes changing to affect the outcome of this election," Deeds said in a telephone interview. "Three hundred and twenty-three votes — that's nothing. Of course, it's everything right now, but it's nothing."

McDonnell, a Republican who represented Virginia Beach in the House of Delegates for 14 years, said he was confident his lead will hold up and that he will be inaugurated along with Gov.-elect Tim Kaine and Lt. Gov.-elect Bill Bolling on Jan. 14.

"We are full speed ahead with our transition efforts," McDonnell said in a teleconference with reporters. "We have top lawyers who will take care of the legal business that needs to be taken care of over the next couple of weeks."

McDonnell had 970,886 votes to 970,563 for Deeds in the Nov. 8 election, according to the state board.

Deeds

McDonnell

"That is less than one one-hundredth of a percent of the votes cast," said Larry Framme, a Richmond attorney and chairman of an organization that will oversee the recount for Deeds. "Senator Deeds has great confidence in the integrity of the Virginia electoral process, but he, like everyone, knows from past experience that human error does exist."

Indeed, enough mistakes were found during a canvass of results by local electoral boards to shrink McDonnell's lead from about 3,000 votes on election night to his current razor-thin margin.

Randy Beales, a former interim attorney general who is heading McDonnell's transition team, said the accuracy of the vote totals has been checked three times — on election night, during local canvassing and by the state board — so the numbers shouldn't change much more.

In the only other statewide recount in modern Virginia history, Republican Marshall Coleman shaved only 113 votes from Democrat L. Douglas Wilder's 7,000-vote advantage in the 1989 governor's race. LARRY O'DELL (AP)

ANIMAL WATCH | MADE FOR WALKING

ROBERT A. REEDER/TWP

BOOTS ON THE GROUND: Chepe, a Mexican Chihuahua belonging to Vanessa Franco and Joel Garcia, tried out his new fleece-lined booties Monday on 15th Street NW to prepare for the upcoming winter months.

Man Arrested for Murder at Club U

WASHINGTON | Nine months after the killing that cost a nightclub its liquor license there's now an arrest.

Terrence Brown was stabbed outside Club U on Feb. 13 after authorities said he got into an argument with a man inside. Today, District police identified that man as Jerome Jones, and said that he's been charged with murder.

Brown's death led to a months-long debate over Club U, an establishment police have said is no stranger to trouble. Police Chief Charles Ramsey and Mayor Anthony Williams were among those who'd had enough of the club, which was located inside the city government-owned Reeves Center at 14th and U streets.

The club's liquor license was revoked on June 29. (AP)

The Lotteries

Monday, Nov. 28

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	**1-3-2**
Evening Lucky Numbers	**4-5-5**
Mid-day DC 4	9-8-2-1
Evening DC 4	**5-6-1-1**
Rolling Cash Five	**12-1-35-6-17**
Daily 6	**11-30-7-9-23-39 Bonus: 20**

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	**6-8-0**
Evening Pick 3	**5-3-5**
Mid-day Pick 4	**3-8-5-3**
Evening Pick 4	**4-7-6-4**
Match 5	**5-10-25-27-28 Bonus: 02**

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3	**4-5-0**
Mid-day Pick 4	**5-6-0-2**
Mid-day Cash 5	**7-8-17-27-31**

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

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Health & Fitness

Workouts for the Diaper Set

Gyms for kids give baby a chance to have fun while getting fit

KIDS | Gyms are typically places to sweat, shoot hoops, backflip, bench-press or box.

Then there's the Little Gym.

The balance beam here has training rails, flips are done in slow-motion with Mommy holding tight, and the instructor cheers athletes who walk down the big cushy pads without falling on their diapered bottoms with a hearty, "Ta Da!"

This franchise run by sisters Meredith Rockett and Dariane Mirando in East Fishkill, N.Y., caters to babies, toddlers, preschoolers and elementary kids.

It's one of many kid-centric operations cropping up around the country with names like My Gym or Gymboree Play & Music. Industry experts say the gym programs catering to kids are being helped by parents spooked by the rising tide of childhood obesity and the lack of unstructured outlets for play.

Gym programs for kids are nothing new. The first Little Gym opened in 1976 and health clubs have been offering programs like "Mommy and Me Swimming" for a while. But the idea is picking up steam. Children under age 18 represent the second-fastest growing health club demographic after the over-55 crowd, according to the International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association. The group reports that health club memberships for kids ages 6 to 11 grew by more than a third from 1999 to 1.8 million last year. MICHAEL HILL (AP)

KEITH FERRIS/AP

Meredith Rockett, co-owner of The Little Gym in East Fishkill, N.Y., works with Isabella Faudar, 2, on the uneven bars during a class earlier this month.

Chest Compressions Key In New CPR Guidelines

LIFESAVING | Updating the way everyday people do CPR, new recommendations urge many more chest compressions for victims of cardiac arrest.

The revised guidelines issued Monday by the American Heart Association on cardiopulmonary resuscitation advise giving 30 chest compressions — instead of 15 — for every two rescue breaths.

"Basically, the more times someone pushes on the chest, the better off the patient is," said Dr. Michael Sayre, an Ohio State University emergency medicine professor who helped develop the new guidelines.

"When you stop compressions, blood flow stops," said Mary Fran Hazinski, a clinical nurse specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center who helped develop the guidelines. "We think that the fewer the interruptions, the better for blood flow."

The guidelines also recommend cooling cardiac arrest patients for 12 to 24 hours to about 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Two significant studies have shown that practice can improve survival and brain function for those who are comatose after initial resuscitation.

More than 300,000 Americans die each year of cardiac arrest, when the heart suddenly stops beating. The heart association estimates that more than 95 percent of cardiac arrest victims die before they get to the hospital. (AP)

Study: Domestic Violence a Global Health Problem

Women who are physically abused by a partner face a similar legacy of health problems whether they live in a modern city in the industrialized world or a traditional village in a developing country, the first global study on domestic violence, conducted by the World Health Organization, has found.

In interviews with 24,000 women in 10 countries, researchers found that while there are wide variations in the rate of women experiencing sexual or other physical abuse at the hands of their partners, victims are about twice as likely as other women to suffer ill health — and the effect seems to persist long after the violence has stopped. EMMA ROSS (AP)

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MOURNING BEST: Soccer great George Best will be buried Saturday in his native Belfast in a ceremony expected to attract more than 100,000 mourners. The former Manchester United and Northern Ireland star died Friday after decades of alcohol abuse. He was 59.

Sports

Washington Hopes to Run the Table

'5 in a row or we don't go' is message for the struggling Redskins

REDSKINS | The desperate state of the Washington Redskins was reflected by a message posted Monday morning on the bulletin board in the locker room.

"Five in a row or we don't go!"

The notice went on to list five NFL teams that have won five straight games this season, concluding with the words, "It has been done."

It's a way to cling to a final bit of hope. There's no rational reason to expect the Redskins (5-6) to win their last five games — they're on a 2-6 slide and have dropped three straight — but running the table is the only way to maintain the bold postseason talk that began when the record was 5-3 earlier this month.

"I think we've got a ton to play for," coach Joe Gibbs said. "Each one of these games is kind of precious to us. We need to get back on the winning track. Everyone can count the numbers. We've got five wins; we've got five games left."

There was also a back-against-the-wall mood last week, when Mark Brunell called the game against San Diego a "must-win." The Redskins kept pace with the Chargers but lost 23-17 in overtime, so what does that make Sunday's game at St. Louis?

"Ditto," Brunell said. "Same thing."

Actually, the Redskins have been doing the "ditto" thing on the field. Three straight weeks, they've blown a lead deep in the fourth quarter. They lost to Tampa Bay by one on a 2-point conversion, to Oakland by three on a field goal, and to San Diego on LaDainian Tomlinson's 41-yard run on the second play of overtime.

"Why this would happen to us?" Gibbs said. "I don't know. We've had three tough losses and a total of five tough losses. I wouldn't want a different group to coach. These are the guys I like. It's up to us, and we're going to see what's going to happen down the road." JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

MOLLY RILEY/REUTERS

HEAD'S UP? After calling Sunday's game a must-win, Mark Brunell walks off the field after the defeat. The Redskins probably need to win out to make the playoffs.

"Through 27 games, Gibbs is 11-16 — that's the exact same record Steve Spurrier had."

Tony Kornheiser wonders if Joe Gibbs is the man to turn around the Redskins | **Today in Sports**

IN The Washington Post

REDSKINS NOTES

- Gibbs voiced support for Robert Royal (three dropped passes) and Casey Rabach (holding penalty) after their mistakes in Sunday's game.
- DT Joe Salave'a is almost certainly out for the Rams game Sunday after aggravating his foot injury. James Thrash (hamstring) is also out another week, while H-Back Mike Sellers (rib) and RB Ladell Betts may return Sunday.
- Carlos Rogers, who had an interception Sunday, appears to have moved ahead of Walt Harris as a starting cornerback.

Losing Lions Fire Mariucci as Coach

GM Millen makes the move days after ugly Thanksgiving defeat

NFL | The Detroit Lions fired coach Steve Mariucci on Monday and promoted defensive coordinator Dick Jauron to succeed him on an interim basis.

Mariucci's record with the Lions was 15-28. His 2003 hiring was hailed by fans and media alike, but he was not able to turn around a team that has won one playoff game since 1957.

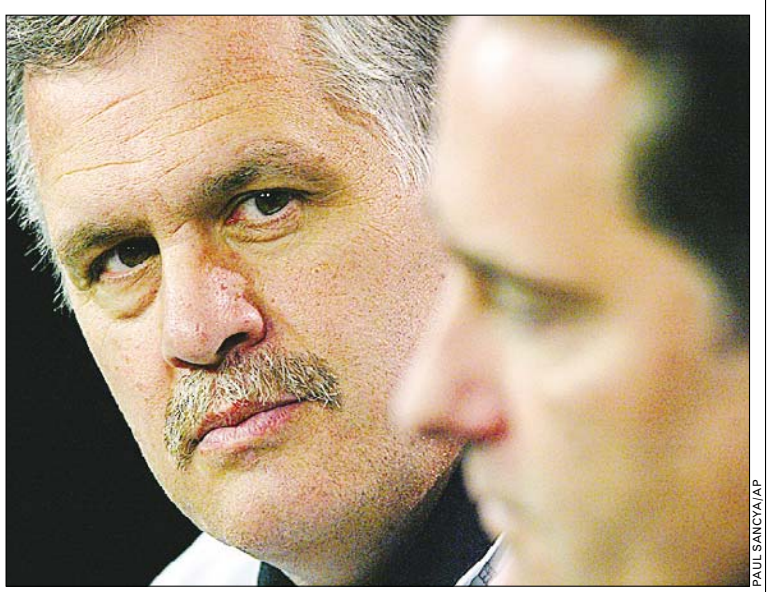
After Detroit lost 27-7 to the Atlanta Falcons on Thanksgiving to fall to 4-7, reports swirled that the team was considering firing Mariucci. When Mariucci was not let go over the weekend, some thought his job was safe for the final five games of the regular season.

"We started off this season with high expectations," team president Matt Millen said at an afternoon news conference. "We have not lived up to our expectations."

Millen also fired offensive line coach Pat Morris and tight ends coach Andy Sugarman.

The Lions have lost four of five games since a solid start put them atop the NFC North with the Chicago Bears.

Millen hired both Mariucci and his predecessor, Marty Mornhinweg, and drafted or signed most of the players currently on the Lions — and Detroit is an NFL-worst 20-55 since 2001. LARRY LAGE (AP)



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Matt Millen, left, fired Steve Mariucci Monday after the Lions fell to 4-7 last week.

Swengali

REDSKINS | BY MATT SWENSON

No Difference In the Redskins

I DON'T NEED TIVO for Christmas; I already watch the Redskins every week.

Losing to an AFC opponent? Check. Penalties coming at the worst time? Check. Blown fourth-quarter lead? Well, you get the idea.

The good news is that the team's done losing to the AFC this year because the remaining five games are all against NFC teams.

The damage was done, though. Of the Redskins' six losses — that's one more than the sex-boat loving Vikings have — four came against AFC West foes, with ex-Redskin coaches Norv Turner and Marty Schottenheimer doing the honors the past two weeks.

The Redskins won't even beat the Cardinals in two weeks.

As for the current coach: Joe Gibbs is now 0-8 vs. the AFC in his second tenure. The Indianapolis Colts must be sorry Washington won't be joining them in the Super Bowl.

Yes, that's right: The Redskins aren't going to the Super Bowl. In fact, no one should even mention playoffs unless they're mimicking Jim Mora's "Playoffs???" quote from a few years ago. Mark it down here: The Redskins won't even beat the Arizona Cardinals in two weeks.

The mistakes and blown leads go hand in hand. Without the mistakes, Washington would be 10-1 instead of 5-6.

But don't scapegoat Robert Royal for his dropped passes or Casey Rabach for his holding penalties in Sunday's loss. It's someone and something different each week.

The Redskins just aren't that good a team, even if they are improved from last year.

Matt Swenson is the sports editor of Express.
E-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

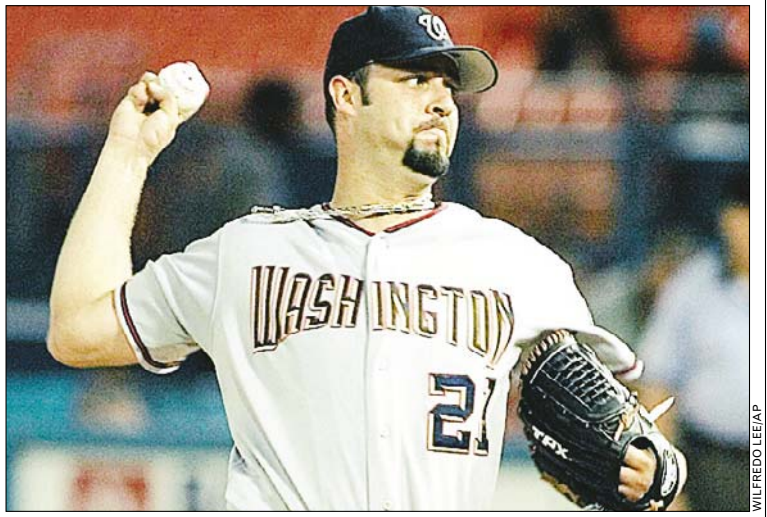
Sports

STAND-UP ACT: Now that he's been traded to the New York Mets, Carlos Delgado says he is willing to stand on the field during the playing of "God Bless America," which he would not do while playing for Toronto and Florida because he felt it was inappropriate to tie the song with 9/11, the war in Iraq and baseball.

Nats Lose Loaiza to A's

NATIONALS | Right-hander Esteban Loaiza, a staple of the Washington Nationals' rotation during their first season in town, signed a three-year contract with the Oakland Athletics Monday, leaving the Nationals with one more hole to fill in an already thin pitching rotation.

Nationals General Manager Jim Bowden, who initially offered Loaiza a two-year contract worth just more than $8 million, would not comment, saying only that, "We continue to look for more starting pitching." Loaiza's agent, John Boggs, was traveling and did not immediately return a phone call. Loaiza, too, did not immediately return a message.



WILFREDO LEE/AP

Loaiza totalled 217 innings pitched last year for the Nats in the team's first season.

Loaiza's deal is a three-year contract worth $21,375,000.

His loss leaves the Nationals with two holes in their starting rotation. Loaiza, 33, went 12-10 with a 3.77 ERA in 217 innings last season, when he made just $2.9 million. He declined an option for 2006 with Washington in hopes that he would earn more on the free agent market.

Washington now has John Patterson, Livan Hernandez and newcomer Brian Lawrence, acquired earlier this month in a trade with San Diego, as healthy starters headed into next year. Right-hander Ryan Drese, another pitcher under contract, is coming off of shoulder surgery, but is expected to be ready early in the season.

BARRY SVRLUGA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

In Brief

BASEBALL

Mets Close Deal for Wagner

Ace closer Billy Wagner and the New York Mets reached a preliminary agreement Monday on a $43 million, four-year contract. Wagner, considered by many the top reliever on the free-agent market, saved 38 games for Philadelphia last season and is a four-time All-Star. The Phillies offered just more than $30 million over three years to retain the 34-year-old left-hander and were prepared to enhance the proposal Monday — but not increase the length.

Wagner

BASEBALL

Rose's Hall Window Shuts

Pete Rose's eligibility for the baseball writers' Hall of Fame ballot expired Monday when the 2006 candidates were announced, a group that includes Cy Young Award winners Orel Hershiser and Dwight Gooden. (AP)

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

COLLEGE HOOPS (9 P.M. ON ESPN) No. 15 Illinois faces North Carolina in a rematch of last year's championship during the ACC-Big 10 Challenge.

COLLEGE HOOPS (7 P.M. ON ESPN) Wisconsin visits No. 24 Wake Forest in the ACC-Big 10 challenge.

COLLEGE HOOPS (7:30 P.M. ON ESPN2) Purdue visits Florida State as part of the ACC-Big 10 challenge.

COLLEGE HOOPS (9:30 P.M. ON ESPN2) Michigan takes on Miami to end the first day of the ACC-Big 10 Challenge.

HOCKEY (7:30 P.M. ON OLN) The New Jersey Devils (11-9) host the Boston Bruins (8-12).

Ryan Signs Huge Deal With Toronto

BASEBALL | B.J. Ryan and the Toronto Blue Jays finalized a $47 million, five-year contract on Monday, the largest deal for a relief pitcher in baseball history.

Ryan, a left-hander who turns 30 on Dec. 28, has 42 career saves, including 36 last season for the Baltimore Orioles. His deal tops the $39.99 million, four-year contract Mariano Rivera got from the New York Yankees from 2001-4. Rivera has the highest average salary for a reliever in a $21 million, two-year contract with the Yankees that has one season remaining. (AP)

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BLONDE ON BLAND: From Times Square, we get Dick Clark (and Ryan Seacrest); out West, they get Hilary Duff. The perky teen will host the West Coast portion of Dick Clark's "New Year's Rockin' Eve" on ABC this year. She'll perform three songs.

Entertainment

Keeper of the Flame

C.S. Lewis' stepson wants no part of the American culture war

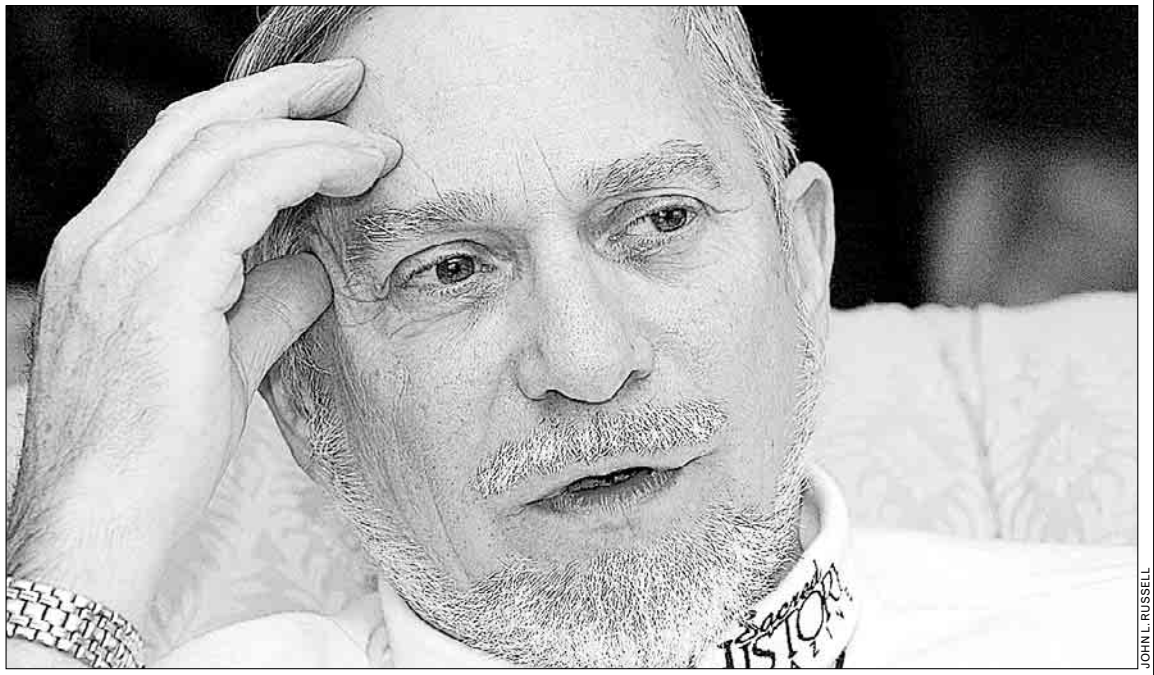
ADAPTATIONS | He may have the image of a dour, cloistered Oxford don with little knowledge of ordinary struggles. But C.S. Lewis, who wrote of epic struggles between good and evil in the imaginary land of Narnia, actually had a humorous side, his stepson said.

Douglas Gresham, 60, is co-producer of the film adaptation of "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," which opens Dec. 9. His biography of Lewis, "Jack's Life," was published last month. (Friends knew Clive Staples Lewis by his nickname, Jack.)

He also helps oversee the Lewis estate and is unofficial guardian of his legacy.

As "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" movie was developed, Gresham watched closely to make certain it faithfully represented the book and its underlying values.

"My job, I suppose, was as resident Narnia guru, to make sure everything Narnian was Narnian in the film, to make sure there weren't anachronisms and incongruities," Gresham said. "But ... the team that we have had on this film has been so good that there's been very little that I've had to complain about."



JOHN L. RUSSELL

LEARNING LIONS: C.S. Lewis' stepson Douglas Gresham kept an eye on the filming of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."

For the uninitiated, Narnia is a magical world populated by talking animals and mythical creatures such as centaurs, dwarves and fauns.

The story, published in 1950, tells of four English siblings — Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy — who stumble into Narnia through a walk-in wardrobe and help overthrow a tyrannical witch, whose spells have turned innocent victims to stone and frozen the landscape in perpetual winter.

As adventure stories, the appeal of the seven-part series is universal. But many regard them as Christian allegories and the heroic lion, Aslan, as a symbol of Jesus. Some commentators have speculated that Hollywood would water down the religious themes. Others fear the film will become a proselytizing tool.

Gresham wants no part of America's culture wars. He said Lewis didn't regard "Wardrobe" as a Christian book, though his beliefs influenced the story.

"Let the magic of Narnia work itself on you. Look at yourself in relation to what's happening on the screen. If you were one of the characters, which one would you be? When we do that honestly, we usually find that we don't measure up very well." JOHN FLESHER (AP)

Shakira's Great Shakes

The singer shimmies appealingly again, this time in English

MUSIC | She's a woman who thinks with her hips and follows her mouth. Or is it the other way around? In either case, Shakira is on the move again with the follow-up to this summer's hit album "Fijacion Oral Vol. 1" (Epic) — this round in English. And again, her charm is seductive.

The 28-year-old superstar from Colombia shows off her rich voice, with its iconic yodel, which she plays like the powerful instrument it is — at times romantically soft, soaringly operatic, at times angrily rock.

The album's first single, "Don't Bother," will draw Alanis comparisons not only for the warbling, but for the imagery of a woman cast aside for another who is "fat free." But, she purrs, "I'm sure she doesn't know how to touch you like I would." She also tackles weighty issues such as God, as in the opening "How Do You Do."

As with "Fijacion Oral Vol. 1," Shakira explores genres, often mixing multiple influences in a single song. "Animal City" gives a belly-dance shake to Shakira's Lebanese roots, but with a surf-guitar undertone and mariachi-horn highlights.

When Shakira moves, it's hard not to follow. MICHELLE MORGANTE (AP)

ALEX GRIMM/AP

A performer since she was a child, Shakira is at ease with many styles.

Today's Top Stops

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ADAM JOHNSON

Meredith Bragg may not be perky, but his songs are the better for his sadness.

Meredith Bragg: Melancholy Baby

1 Our instinct is to beg Meredith Bragg to get out more, take some exercise and cheer the heck up, but then his songs and acoustic guitar work may lose that still, solitary beauty that makes them special. He brings his back-up band, the Terminals, to the Kennedy Center for a blissfully free show.

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage, 2700 F St. NW; 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)

Bob Mould: A Man, a Plan, a Guitar

2 Bob Mould goes solo, which could mean anything — a loud guitar-frenzy, or itchy electronica, or fierce proto-grunge.

Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; with Kirstin Hersh, 7:30 p.m., $20; 703-573-7328.

'Fooled Again': What We Won't Get

3 How did the Democrats lose the 2004 election? Television critic and political commentator Mark Crispin Miller is in no doubt; he believes the election was stolen and isn't afraid to say so in his new book, "Fooled Again."

Politics & Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; 7 p.m., free; 202-364-1919. (Van Ness-UDC)

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Entertainment

CBS

READ ALL ABOUT IT: Networks have blogs for even scripted shows such as "How I Met Your Mother," which features a faux blog from the character Barney, right.

When Fiction Makes News

TV contestants and characters enter a booming blogosphere

TECHNOLOGY | Eager to promote their shows and build a community among fans, networks are turning to the tool of pundits, gadflies and pamphleteers — the weblog.

Many are written in the voice of a character — usually not the main figure but an especially popular or quirky sidekick. Executive producers for other shows drop the charade of writing in character and merely use their own names.

Together, they present a network's united blogging front for a show, rather than cede control to do-it-yourself, sometimes obsessive fan bloggers. "Blogs are a great way to bring millions of viewers who enjoy our programming into the creative process," CBS entertainment president Nancy Tellem said in announcing more than a half-dozen blogs on, or coming to, CBS.com.

One is posted from Barney, the womanizing cad played by Neil Patrick Harris on the comedy "How I Met Your Mother." Though the actor is pictured, the postings come from the sitcom's writers.

Example: "Halloween is just around the corner and you know what that means: girls dressed in slutty costumes all across the city — it's like Christmas in October"

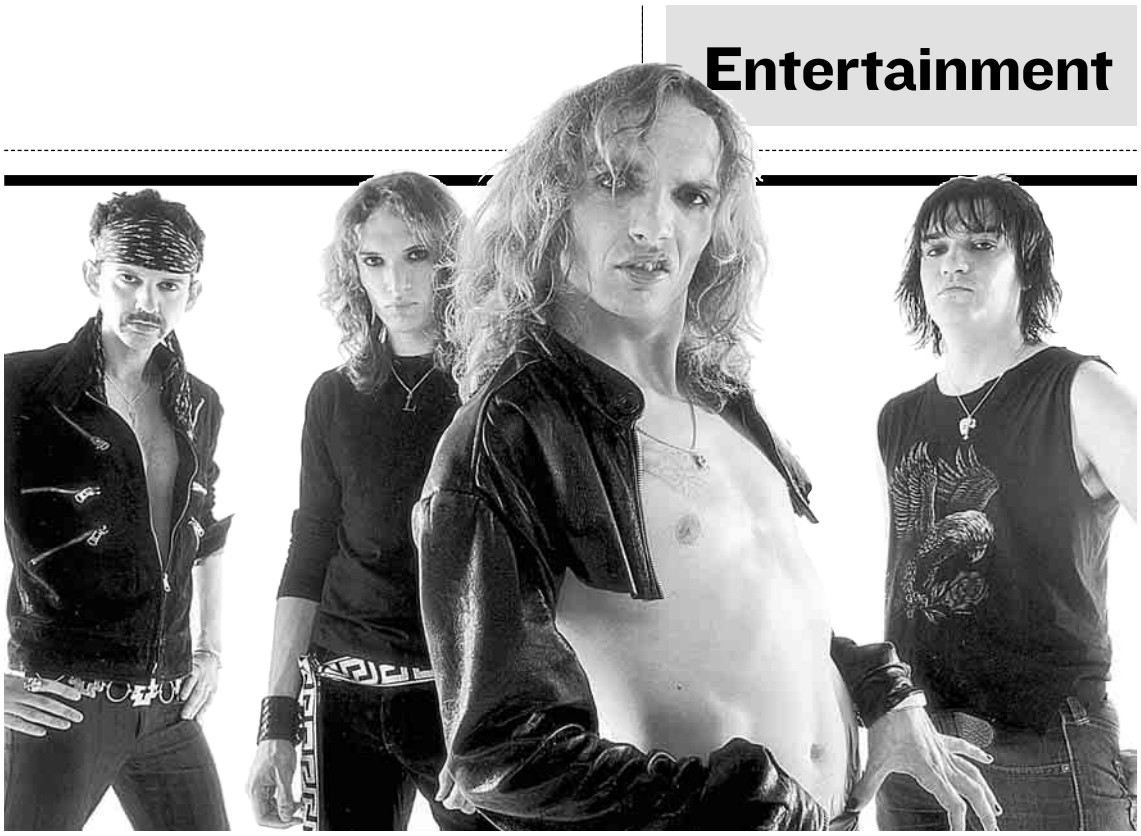
Humor, too, is the object of the blog by Dwight Schrute, the nerdy assistant regional manager played by Rainn Wilson on NBC's "The Office," whose missives could easily be a subplot of the deadpan comedy.

Reality shows are an obvious choice for blogging, where current contestants or past players, writing with the benefit of experience, comment freely on developments and strategies like sports columnists.

In every instance, the blog is never meant to stand alone as entertainment but to support a show. The networks can be certain fans will not give up their favorite shows for the blog.

Indeed, when the "Today" show host took his gimmicky recent trip, "Where in the World Is Matt Lauer?," his computer diary was submitted as a "video blog" — which was pretty much like TV itself. ROGER CATLIN (THE HARTFORD COURANT)

Entertainment



FIRE YOUR RETRO-BOOSTERS: The Darkness' super-silly, Queen-inspired Hammer of the Gods act is utterly devoid of irony.

A Glam Sandwich

The Darkness creeps back in with another over-the-top album

RETRO-ROCK | Dan Hawkins, guitarist for U.K. band the Darkness, is blunt about his group's career: "Half the people absolutely cannot bear us and think we're a joke, and the other half absolutely love us and think that we're the saviors of rock 'n' roll."

Anyone who ate up the over-the-top classic rock style of the band's debut, "Permission to Land," will love "One Way Ticket to Hell ... and Back." Hawkins, his younger brother Justin (vocals/guitars), Ed Graham (drums) and Richie Edwards (bass) present more guitar solos, falsetto singing and arena-ready choruses on the sophomore album, due today from Atlantic.

A generous recording budget allowed the Darkness room to experiment, and orchestration, panpipes and bagpipes flesh out what Justin calls "a massive, massive rock album."

The band's party-time sound is intact (listen to "Knockers" or "Is It Just Me?"), but some lyrics focus on not-so-upbeat topics like hair loss ("Bald") and drug-induced heart attacks (the title cut).

The Darkness is strongly influenced by Queen. Detractors who think the quartet is imitating the legendary group will surely howl about the band's choice of producer: Roy Thomas Baker, who helmed such Queen masterpieces as "Bohemian Rhapsody." "We're confident, and our souls are clean," Dan said. "We're not retro-activists, and we don't steal from people. We're heavily influenced, as any other band is, by our peers. It's just great to work with someone like Roy, and he's got the experience to just do anything."

The band will not try to win over its critics, either. Justin said, "We could try and do something serious, and then we'd end up serious and holier than thou and more ambiguous and less in your face ... If we did that, people would go, 'Ah, look at that, they sold out. They've never stood by their principles.' So we just do what we do."

CHRISTA TITUS (BILLBOARD)

'Earl' Nods to Western Md.

AREA MAN MAKES GOOD | Hagerstown? Cumberland? Surely the NBC sitcom "My Name Is Earl" is set in the South and not Western Maryland, despite these recent local references.

But "Earl" creator Greg Garcia, a graduate of Frostburg State University, is state-proud, the Associated Press reports, and plans to have the NBC show's star character (played by Jason Lee) make a visit to Garcia's alma mater in an upcoming episode.

Earl and his coterie — brother Randy (Ethan Suplee), ex-wife Joy (Jaime Pressly) and Joy's husband Darnell (Eddie Steeples) — live in fictional Camden County, no state given. ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

NBC

"Earl" encourages a local connection.

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ZATHURA (PG) 11:10, 1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 9:45
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 11:20, 12:20, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20
JARHEAD (R) 11:05, 1:50, 4:40, 7:35, 10:20
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) 11:45, 2:45
SAW II (R) 9:50 PM
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 4:30

HOFFMANN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 12:45, 3:10, 5:45, 8:15, 10:35
IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 1:25, 4:00, 7:10, 9:55
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 1:55, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
RENT (PG13) ✓ 12:05, 1:15, 3:10, 4:15, 6:15, 7:30, 9:25, 10:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:40, 1:40, 2:55, 4:00, 5:15, 6:30, 7:45, 9:00, 10:05
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 12:00, 1:00, 1:50, 2:45, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) (ID) CC 12:00, 3:30, 7:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 12:40, 2:05, 4:00, 5:20, 7:30, 8:30, 10:35
BEE SEASON (PG13) ✓ 12:05, 2:35, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25
DERAILED (R) 1:05, 3:55, 6:55, 9:40
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 12:20, 3:15, 6:20, 9:30
ZATHURA (PG) 1:20, 4:05, 6:40
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 1:30, 4:35, 7:35, 10:20
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:15, 1:10, 2:25, 3:30, 4:40, 5:50, 8:05
JARHEAD (R) 12:30, 3:35, 6:30, 9:35
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) 9:50 PM
PRIME (PG13) 10:30 PM
PRIME (PG13) (ID) CC 10:30 PM
SAW II (R) 7:05, 9:15
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:25
CAPOTE (R) 9:20 PM

UNION STATION 9
Located at Union Station
703-998-4AMC

IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:30, 7:45
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 2:40, 5:30, 8:00
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 2:00, 4:45, 7:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 2:45, 3:30, 6:15, 7:30
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 2:20, 5:10, 8:00
DERAILED (R) 2:05, 4:20, 8:20
ZATHURA (PG) 2:15
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 5:00, 8:15
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 2:25, 5:15, 7:30
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (ID) CC 2:25, 5:15, 7:30

COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
410-423-0520

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:20, 10:40
IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 1:30, 4:45, 7:45, 10:55
DERAILED (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:40
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) (ID) CC 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
ZATHURA (PG) 12:05, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 9:55 PM
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:15
JARHEAD (R) 1:15, 4:10, 7:35, 10:20
SAW II (R) 10:55 PM

SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 5:20, 8:30
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 1:45, 5:00, 8:45
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:30, 4:30, 8:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 5:00, 8:15
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 12:30, 1:15, 4:00, 4:45, 7:30, 8:15
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 4:30, 8:00
DERAILED (R) 8:45
ZATHURA (PG) 4:40
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 5:10
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 4:50, 7:45
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (ID) CC 4:50, 7:45
JARHEAD (R) 7:30

RIVERTOWNE 12
Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd.
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) 5:40, 8:30
IN THE MIX (PG13) 5:30, 8:10
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 5:10, 7:50
RENT (PG13) 5:20, 8:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 5:50, 8:00
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 5:00, 5:55, 8:20
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 5:30, 8:20
DERAILED (R) 5:10, 8:10
ZATHURA (PG) 5:40
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 5:00, 7:40
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 5:20, 7:50
SAW II (R) 8:00

COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6
Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68.
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 5:45, 8:20
RENT (PG13) ✓ 5:15, 8:05
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 6:00, 8:20
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 5:15, 8:05
ZATHURA (PG) 5:45, 8:20
ZATHURA (PG) (ID) CC 5:45, 8:20
JARHEAD (R) 5:30, 8:05

POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 1:50, 5:05, 7:10, 9:25
IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 1:55, 5:10, 7:30, 9:45
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 1:45, 5:00, 7:25, 10:05
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 8:00, 10:10
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:40
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 1:00, 1:20, 2:00, 2:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:20, 6:20, 7:35, 8:30, 9:30
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 1:30, 2:25, 4:25, 5:25, 7:15, 8:20
DERAILED (R) 2:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:10
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) ✓ 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) (ID) CC ✓ 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
ZATHURA (PG) 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 2:10, 5:25, 10:00
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 1:25, 2:20, 3:20, 4:05, 5:40, 7:05, 9:00
JARHEAD (R) 5:00, 7:25, 10:05
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) 1:40
SAW II (R) 7:45, 10:00

MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
RENT (PG13) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 3:30, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) (ID) CC 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 2:25, 5:15, 8:15
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 2:45, 4:45, 6:45, 8:45
PRIME (PG13) 2:10, 4:30

COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 3:20, 5:45, 8:30
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 3:10, 5:40, 8:20
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 3:00, 5:10, 7:40
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 2:00, 4:30, 5:30, 8:00, 9:00
DERAILED (R) 2:40, 5:15, 7:50
ZATHURA (PG) 2:50, 5:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 8:10
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 2:30, 5:00, 7:30

ACADEMY 8
Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Rd., Center Court
703-998-4AMC

IN THE MIX (PG13) 5:10, 7:30
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 5:25, 7:50
RENT (PG13) 5:20, 8:20
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 4:40, 7:20
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 4:30, 8:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 5:15, 8:10
DERAILED (R) 5:00
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 7:45
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 4:50, 7:10

✓-**SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT** -No passes or discount coupons please.

Times for Tuesday, November 29, 2005

Design you. "Home & Shopping" can lead you to your look. **Wednesdays.** express

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LOEWS CINEPLEX

A CENTURY OF ENTERTAINMENT

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA
OPENS DECEMBER 9th
Advance Tickets Now On Sale!

Feature presentation starts approximately 15 minutes after published showtime.

★ No Passports Accepted
Bargain Shows in ( )

Cineplex Odeon TYSONS FAIRFAX SQUARE
8065 Leesburg Pike 703-506-9857

Reel Mom's 11:00 a.m. - YOUR, MINE AND OURS

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (11:00 1:40 3:00 3:40 5:15 5:40) 7:10 7:40 9:15 9:40
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (3:20 5:20)7:20 9:40
★ RENT (PG–13) (3:10 4:55)6:50 7:35 9:35 10:15
PRIME (PG–13) (3:30)9:20
SHOPGIRL (R) (4:50)7:10 9:20
CAPOTE (R) (2:50 5:10)7:30 10:00
THE CONSTANT GARDENER (R) 6:30
THE ARYAN COUPLE (PG–13) (2:30)

Cineplex Odeon DUPONT CIRCLE 5
Dupont Circle M
1350 19th Street 202-972-9956

BEE SEASON (PG–13) (2:20 4:40)7:00 9:40
THE ARYAN COUPLE (PG–13) (2:10 4:50)7:30 10:00
PARADISE NOW (PG–13) (2:40 5:00)7:40 10:10
CAPOTE (R) (2:00 3:00 4:30 5:40)7:10 8:20 9:50

MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES CAPITOL CENTRE
800 Shopper's way, Largo 301-324-4220

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (1:10 3:40)6:10 8:40
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (2:50 5:10)7:50 10:10
★ RENT (PG–13) (12:55 3:55)6:55 9:55
★ IN THE MIX (PG–13) (1:00 2:00 3:30 4:30)6:30 7:30 9:00 10:00
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (2:30)6:00 9:30
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG–13) Rear Window Captioning (1:30 5:00)8:30
ZATHURA (PG) (1:20 3:50)6:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) (1:40 2:20 5:20)7:40 8:20 11:00
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (1:15 2:15 3:15 4:15 5:15)6:15 8:15 10:15
JARHEAD (R) (4:40)10:40
SAW II (R) 7:20 9:50
THE GOSPEL (PG) 8:50 11:15

Cineplex Odeon UPTOWN
Cleveland Park M
3426 Connecticut Avenue 202-966-8805

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (11:30 3:15)7:00 10:30

Cineplex Odeon WISCONSIN AVE. CINEMAS
4000 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. 202-244-0982

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (2:10 4:25)6:50 9:10
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (2:25 4:35)7:00 9:15
ZATHURA (PG) (1:40 4:15)
DERAILED (R) (1:30 4:05)6:45 9:20
JARHEAD (R) 6:50 9:30
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:20 4:40)6:55 9:40
WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT (G) (2:00 4:20)7:10 9:50

Loews WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda 310-423-1014

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (2:10 4:20)6:35 9:15
★ RENT (PG–13) (1:50 4:35)7:20 10:05
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (2:40)6:10 9:10
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (2:30)6:05 9:10
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (2:05 4:15)6:30 9:00

Cineplex Odeon SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph 703-671-0978

BEE SEASON (PG–13) (5:10)10:00
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) (2:00 3:00 4:40 5:40)7:20 8:30 9:50
THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (R) (2:50 5:50)7:40 9:30
PRIME (PG–13) (2:30 4:50)6:50 9:10
SHOPGIRL (R) (2:40)7:30
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:20 4:20)6:40 9:00
CAPOTE (R) (2:10 4:30)7:10 9:40

Loews GEORGETOWN
3111 K Street, N.W. 202-346-6033

Reel Mom's 11:00 a.m. - WALK THE LINE

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (12:40 2:50 5:00)7:20 9:30
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (1:20 3:40 5:50)8:40 11:10
★ RENT (PG–13) (12:10 3:10 3:45)6:10 7:40 9:10 10:40
★ JUST FRIENDS (PG–13) (2:00 5:10)8:00 10:20
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (12:00 12:30 3:30 4:00)7:00 7:30 10:30 11:00
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (11:00 12:20 1:50 3:20 4:50)6:20 7:50 9:20 10:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) (1:10 4:10)7:10 10:10
ZATHURA (PG) (11:00 1:25)
DERAILED (R) (1:00 3:50)10:00
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (2:20 4:30)6:40 8:50
JARHEAD (R) (4:20)9:50
PRIME (PG–13) (1:30)7:15
SHOPGIRL (R) (2:30)10:00
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (11:50)

Loews WHEATON PLAZA 11
Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center,
Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University 301-949-9202

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (3:15 5:10)7:30 9:35
★ RENT (PG–13) (4:00)6:50 10:00
★ JUST FRIENDS (PG–13) Rear Window Captioning (3:30 5:40)8:00 10:10
★ IN THE MIX (PG–13) (5:00)7:20 9:50
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (3:10)6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (3:20)6:20 9:10
ZATHURA (PG) (4:20)
DERAILED (R) (3:00 5:20)7:50 10:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) (3:50)6:30 9:00
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (4:30)7:30 9:45
SAW II (R) 7:10 9:40

Tickets times and more at Fandango.com — Times Good for 11/29/05 — www.enjoytheshow.com

REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RENT (PG-13) DIG (120 340 425) 645 730 955 1030
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1220 250 510) 735 1005
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1245 300 520) 745 1010
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1235 250 505) 715 935
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1205 235 450) 710 930
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1150 1210 1230 325 345 405) 700 720 740 1035
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1225 115 335) 640 725 945
OC & DA: WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (420) 1025
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (150 435) 705 940
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (105)
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (110 400) 655 950
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1215 230 440) 705 915

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
Glebe Rd, Arlington 800-FANDANGO 377#

Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1235 120 340 420) 715 815 1025
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1220 250 520) 750 1015
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1230 110 330 410) 645 705 740 940 1000
BEE SEASON (PG-13) DIG (1250 415) 700 950
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (105 225 435 525) 730 820 1020
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1245 350) 650 945
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1220 125 230 335 440 545) 755 1010
SAW II (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (115) 1005
CAPOTE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (425) 720

BOWIE STADIUM 14
15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (150 445) 725 1010
RENT (PG-13) DIG (100 405) 715 1025
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (205 500) 750 1015
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1200 225 455) 745 1015
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1150 1230 135 325 405 510) 700 845 1035
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1220 400) 725 1035
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (115 415) 710 955
GET RICH OR DIE TRYING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (200 450) 735 1030
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1155 1255 215 310 435 525) 810 1025
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 705 1005
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (110 355) 710 950
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (140 410) 720 800 950 1030

BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1030 130 430) 730 1030
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1050 150 440) 740 1010
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1040 140 410) 710 930
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1220 340) 735 1035
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1000 1150 1210 1230 325 345 405) 700 720 740 1035 1055
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1035 120 435) 745 1020
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (110 350) 800
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1100 115 420) 645 920

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1150 1230 1230 325 405 405) 700 740 800 1035
RENT (PG-13) DIG (135 435) 735 1035
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1155 225 455) 710 930
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1200 235 500) 725 950
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1245 300 515) 730 945
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1145 215 445) 715 940
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1235 130 340 440) 650 750 1000
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (240 520) 800 1040
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (120 400)
GET RICH OR DIE TRYING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (230 530) 830 930
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 350) 645 950
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1215 200 230 415 450) 630 715
SAW II (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 705 935

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20
45980 Regal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
CHICKEN LITTLE 3D - DIGITAL PROJECTION (G) DIG (140 415) 645 930
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (150 420) 725 1000
RENT (PG-13) DIG (200 510) 720 830 1030
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1200 250 515) 745 1010
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1210 300 530) 750 1025
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (110 230 340 450) 630 730 910 945
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (1240 400) 715 1015
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (240 520) 800 1035
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1230 330)
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 650 955
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (115 210 345 445) 615 900
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (100 120 440) 610 710 810 920 1020
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1220 1250 130 220 250 320 350 430 500) 620 700 740 820 850 950 1040

ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#
Free Theatre Parking- Monroe Street Garage
Weeknights after 6 PM- all day Saturday/Sunday

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1110 140 420) 710 945
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1115 200 430) 755 1020
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1140 340) 725 1030
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1120 150 440) 750 1015
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1125 155 445) 735 1000
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1135 330) 715 1025
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1150 1210 1230 325 345 405) 700 720 740 1035
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) (1130 335) 730 1040
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1100 135 415) 655 950
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1105 145 425)
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 705 1005
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1100 105 315 525) 745 955

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (150 435) 730 1000
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SOLO ACT: Now that you're separating from your hot wife, Nick Lachey, what are you going to do? Star in my own sitcom! The singer, actor and soon-to-be-divorce is working with the WB on a sitcom — he'd play (ahem) a newlywed baseball star.

Television

ON TV TONIGHT

NO PARIS HILTON?
Nearly 11 months in, Barbara Walters declares **THE 10 MOST FASCINATING PEOPLE OF 2005** (10 p.m., ABC). This year's list includes Tom Cruise, Kanye West, Dakota Fanning, Lance Armstrong, Beth Holloway Twitty, Teri Hatcher, Jamie Foxx, Condoleezza Rice, Michael Jackson's lawyer and the mother of the teen missing in Aruba. For those keeping score, this list contains not one doctor, scientist, inventor, clergyman, author, philosopher or educator.

DIAGNOSIS: BUNCH OF BABIES
Furious finger-pointing on **HOUSE** (9 p.m., Fox).

CULT CHOICE
John Lithgow and Dudley Moore star in the 1985 fantasy **SANTA CLAUS: THE MOVIE** (8 p.m., Family).

THE WB

ALAS: "Felicity" deals with a common 18th-century problem — cute boys.

PLAYING WITH DOLLS
FELICITY: AN AMERICAN GIRL ADVENTURE (8 p.m., WB) follows the title character during the years leading up to the American Revolution. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Full White House

'Commander in Chief' gains traction — and a couple of new faces

SUPPORT STAFF | With its smart combination of power politics and emotional intrigue, "Commander in Chief" (9 p.m., ABC) has emerged as one of the new season's few bona fide hits. Two new characters are introduced on tonight's "Commander."

Mark-Paul Gosselaar joins the cast as Richard McDonald, a savvy media consultant brought aboard to stem the administration's loss of credibility and boost sagging poll numbers. Gosselaar co-starred on "NYPD Blue" for four seasons, which is interesting to note given that Steven Bochco, producer of "Blue," was recently brought in to helm "Commander."

ABC

FRUMPY: Bergen and Davis share a laugh over POTUS' unflattering sweater.

Polly Bergen will also join the cast in the recurring role of the president's mother, Kate Allen. This bit of casting acknowledges Bergen's role in the 1964 big-screen comedy "Kisses for My President," in which she played the first woman U.S. president. Fred MacMurray played her First Gentleman.

As a veteran of film and television, including "The Winds of War" and "War and Remembrance," Bergen played Gregory Peck's terrified wife in the 1962 thriller "Cape Fear." KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

11.29.05		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	The Biggest Loser "212" (Season Finale) The winner is revealed.				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N)		News	Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Seinfeld	Bones "The Girl in the Fridge" (N)		House "The Mistake" (N)		News		Geraldo at Large	Friends
	WJLA 7	News	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	According to Jim	Rodney (N)	Commander In Chief (N)		Fascinating People of 2005		News	(:35) Nightline
	WUSA 9	News	CBS News	9News Tonight	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Probie" (N)		The Amazing Race: Family Edition (N)		Criminal Minds		News	Late Show
	WDCA 20	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Friends	Every-Raymond	America's Next Top Model		The SmackDown Special (N)		The Tyra Banks Show (N)		Girlfriends	Girlfriends
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	Outdoors Md.	Nova "Treasures of the Sunken City"		Kent State Shootings		Frontline "The Alternative Fix"		Independent Lens "A Family at War".	
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nova "Lost Treasures of Tibet"		Secrets of the Dead (N)		Frontline "The Alternative Fix"		Charlie Rose (N)	
	WHUT 32	World Business	Tavis Smiley	BBC World News	Moneywise	Smart Travels Europe's Best				BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N)	
	WBDC 50	Steve Harvey	The Parkers	My Wife and Kids	Bernie Mac	"Felicity: An American Girl Adventure" (2005) Shailene Woodley.				Bernie Mac	My Wife and Kids	Sex and the City	Will & Grace
BASIC CABLE	A&E	City Confidential		American Justice: Duty...		Cold Case Files "Woolley, Eigen"		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Random 1 (N)		Crossing Jordan "Bombs Away"	
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter		The Most Extreme "Biters"		Profiles of Nature "Ambush!"		The Most Extreme "Dieters" (N)		Last Maneater: Killer Tigers of India		Profiles of Nature "Ambush!".	
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live			BET.com Count	The Ultimate Hustler		The Ultimate Hustler		Comicview		In Living Color	In Living Color
	Bravo	Queer Eye for the Straight Guy		The West Wing "2162 Votes"		★★ "To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar" (1995, Comedy)				Queer Eye for the Straight Guy		A Night on Mount Edna (N)	
	Comedy	Mad TV		Green Screen	Reno 911!	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Chappelle's Show	South Park	Denis Leary's Merry F... Christmas		Daily Show	Colbert Report
	Court	NYPD Blue "Dead Man Talking"		Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	The Investigators		Masterminds	Masterminds
	Discovery	Carrier: Arsenal of the Sea		MythBusters "Confederate Rocket"		SOS: Coast Guard Rescue (N)		Dirty Jobs "Shrimper" Shrimp season.		MythBusters Steel toe boots.		I Shouldn't Be Alive "Jaws of Death"	
	DISCH	Paramedics Paramedics of Reno, Nev.		Trauma: Life in the ER		Archie, the 84-lb Baby		Sex, Gender and Desire		Love on the Rocks		Archie, the 84-lb Baby	
	Disney	Sister, Sister	Phil of the Future	That's So Raven	That's So Raven	"Life Is Ruff" (2005) Kyle Massey. A teenage slacker adopts a stray dog.				American Drgn	Sister, Sister	That's So Raven	That's So Raven
	E!	High Price of Fame		E! News (N)	E! News	50 Cutest Child Stars All Grown Up Young celebrities.				Gastineau Girls	Supermodels	Hilton Sisters: True Hollywood Story	
	FX	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	★★ "Basic" (2003, Suspense) John Travolta, Connie Nielsen.				Nip/Tuck "Abby Mays" (N)		(:04) Nip/Tuck "Abby Mays".	
	HGTV	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	Designed to Sell	Design Remix	Decorating Cents, Ideas Under $100		Designers'	Small Space	Design on a Dime	Designer Finals
	Family	7th Heaven "I Love You"		Smallville "Red"		★★ "Santa Claus: The Movie" (1985) Dudley Moore, John Lithgow.				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club	
	History	Modern Marvels: Egyptian Pyramids		Modern Marvels: Aswan Dam		Mail Call	Mail Call	Shootout! "WWII: Storming France"		Man Moment Machine		Quest for King Solomon's Gold	
	Lifetime	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	★★ "A Different Kind of Christmas" (1996) Shelley Long, Bruce Kirby.				★★ "A Fare to Remember" (1999) Malcolm-Jamal Warner. Premiere.				Will & Grace	Will & Grace
	MTV	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	Real World Reunion		Gauntlet Prev.	Punk'd
	NICK	All Grown Up	Danny Phantom	Fairly Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob	Full House	Full House	Fatherhood (N)	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Roseanne	The Cosby Show
	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "Prodigy"		★★ "Creature" (1998, Suspense) Craig T. Nelson, Kim Cattrall, Colm Feore. An amphibious monster threatens a scientist and his family.								★★★ "Gulliver's Travels" (1996).	
	SPIKE	World's Wildest Police Videos		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		★★ "Death Warrant" (1990, Drama) Jean-Claude Van Damme, Robert Guillaume.					Real TV
	TBS	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Friends	Friends	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	(:10) Seinfeld	(:40) Seinfeld	(:10) "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective".	
	TLC	Martha (N)		Rides "Bond" Mixing music with cars.		Overhaulin' "Tuner Car"		Overhaulin' "Customs"		Adam Carolla Project (N)		Adam Carolla Project	
	TNT	Charmed "The Devil's Music"		Law & Order "Amends"		Law & Order "Vendetta"		Law & Order "Genius" (DVS)		Law & Order "Hot Pursuit"		Cold Case "Sherry Darlin'"	
	USA	"Stealing Christmas" (2003, Comedy-Drama) Tony Danza, Lea Thompson.				Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Want"		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	
	VH1	The Surreal Life		The Surreal Life		The Fab 40				I Love the Holidays			UK Music Hall
SPANISH	TELEM	Sala de Parejas	Noti-Telemndo	La Tormenta		El Cuerpo del Deseo		Corazón Partido	Decisiones	Decisiones		Noti-Telemndo	Laura
	UNIV	¡Que Locura!	Noticiero Univ	Piel de Otoño Mujeres valientes.		Contra Viento y Marea		La Esposa Virgen		En Exclusiva con Myrka Dellanos		Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	SportsCenter (Live)		College Basketball Wisconsin at Wake Forest. (Live)				College Basketball Illinois at North Carolina. (Live)				SportsCenter	
	ESPN2	ESPN Hollywood	Quite Frankly With Stephen A. Smith		College Basketball Purdue at Florida State. (Live)				College Basketball Miami at Michigan. (Live)				NFL Films
	CSN	Totally Football	SportsNite	Women's College Basketball (Live)				College Basketball American at Loyola (Md.). (Live)				SportsNite	Pro View
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360			
	FNC	Special Report (Live)		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live)		Hannity & Colmes (Live)		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report		Hardball		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Rita Cosby Live & Direct		Scarborough Country		The Situation With Tucker Carlson	
MOVIES	AMC	(5:30) ★★ "Point Break" (1991, Drama) Patrick Swayze, Keanu Reeves. 'R'				★★★ "Insomnia" (2002) Al Pacino. A guilt-ridden cop hunts a killer who knows his secret. 'R'				★ "Death Wish II" (1982, Drama) Charles Bronson. 'R'			
	TCM	(5:45) ★★★ "That's Entertainment! III" (1994) June Allyson. 'G'				★★ "Min and Bill" (1930) Marie Dressler. 'NR'			★★ "Saratoga" (1937, Drama) Clark Gable, Jean Harlow. 'NR'				Hollywd Cantn
	HBO	(:15) ★★★ "Intolerable Cruelty" (2003) George Clooney. 'PG-13'				The Sopranos "All Due Respect"		Real Sports (N)		Curb-Enthsm	House Arrest	★★ "Spanglish" (2004) 'PG-13'	
	MAX	Silent Trigger 'R'	(:20) ★★ "Tales From the Hood" (1995) 'R'			★ "Exorcist: The Beginning" (2004, Horror) Stellan Skarsgard. 'R'				★★★ "Ray" (2004, Biography) Jamie Foxx, Regina King. 'PG-13'			
	SHOW	★★ "Against the Ropes" (2004, Drama) Meg Ryan. iTV. 'PG-13'				★★ "Uptown Girls" (2003) Brittany Murphy. 'PG-13'			(:35) ★★ "Jeepers Creepers 2" (2003, Horror) Ray Wise. iTV. 'R'				Drugstore Cowboy
	TMC	While-Sleeping	(:25) ★★ "Samourais" (2002) Cyril Mourali. 'R'			★★★ "Manito" (2002, Drama) Franky G. 'NR'			★ "Death Wish V: The Face of Death" (1994) 'R'			(:05) "Mayor of the Sunset Strip" 'R'.	
	STARZ!	(5:35) ★★ "The Forgotten" (2004)		(:15) ★★ "Blankman" (1994, Comedy) Damon Wayans. 'PG-13'				★★ "The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou" (2004) Bill Murray. 'R'				★★ "Cellular" (2004) Kim Basinger.	
	ENCORE	(4:40) Predator 'R'	★★ "The Haunted Mansion" (2003) Eddie Murphy. 'PG'			★★★ "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" (2003) Elijah Wood. Humans and creatures unite to battle Sauron and his army.							Laws of Attraction

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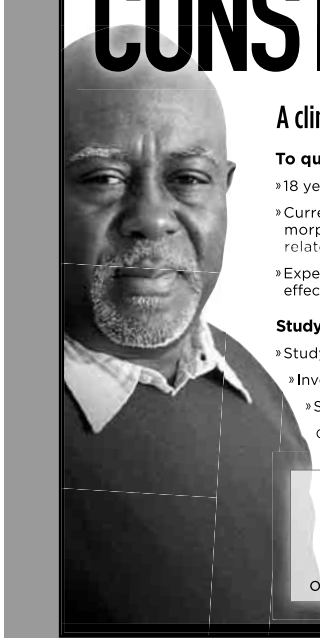

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- CPR Certification
- Excellent judgment
- Excels in communicating throughout every level in the organization
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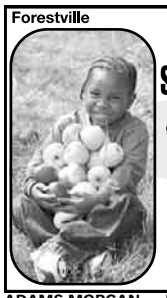

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LORTON $375,000
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MANASSAS $365,000
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Look out

TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

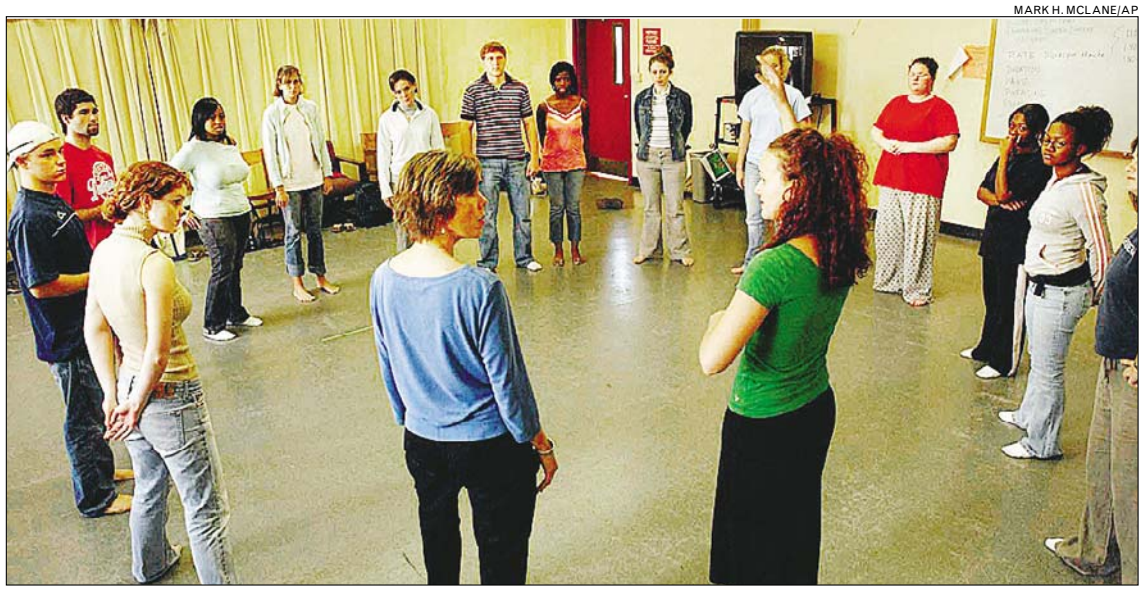
INSIDE

Czar in your own Russian drama | 33

Blog Log: Mr. Miyagi is remembered | 31

BFF 4Ever: Paris and Nicole return | 34

MARK H. MCLANE/AP



Y'ALL OUT: Professor Erica Tobolski, left center, leads a class on how to drown out drawls at the University of South Carolina.

A Little Bit Country

Speech

Think the Southern drawl is dying out? Think again, sugah

"Y'all" isn't welcome in Erica Tobolski's class in voice and diction at the University of South Carolina. And forget about "fixin'," as in getting ready to do something, or "pin" when talking about the writing instrument.

Tobolski's class is all about getting rid of accents, mostly Southern ones in the heart of the former Confederacy, and replacing them with Standard American Dialect, the uninflected tone of TV news anchors that oozes authority and refinement.

"We sort of avoid talking about class in this country, but clearly class is indicated by how we speak," she said. "Many come to see me because they want to sound less country."

Across the fast-growing South, accents are under assault, and not just from the modern-day Henry Higginses of academia. There's the flood of transplants from other regions, notions of Southern upward mobility that require dropping the drawl, and stereotypes that "y'alls" and "suhs" signal low status or lack of intelligence.

But is the Southern accent really disappearing?

That depends what accent you mean. The South, because of its rural, isolated past, boasts a diversity of dialects, from Appalachian twangs in several states to Elizabethan lilts in Virginia to Cajun accents in Louisiana to African-influenced Gullah accents on the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina.

North Carolina State University linguist Walt Wolfram said it's a misconception among Southerners that Yankee newcomers are stamping out traditional speech. More likely, he said, is that newcomers pick up local speech patterns.

"When people move here and don't think they've changed at all, they go home and people say, 'Wow. You've turned Southern.' They pick up enough to be identified as Southern. So it's still there," he said.

Georgia-bred humorist Roy Blount Jr. understands that people with strong Southern accents are often perceived as "slow and dimwitted." But he thinks it's "sort of a shame" that people should feel the need to soften or lose their accents.

"My father, who was a surely intelligent man, would say 'cain't'. He wouldn't say 'can't.' And, 'There ain't no way, just there ain't no way.' You don't want to say, 'There isn't any way.' That just spoils the whole thing," Blount said.

"I just think that there's a certain eloquence in Southern vernacular that I wouldn't want to lose touch with ... you ought to sound like where you come from."

JEFFREY COLLINS AND KRISTEN WYATT (AP)

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Look out | Voices

Books | Women's Work

Entrepreneur **ELIZABETH COGSWELL BASKIN** was online Monday to discuss her book, "How to Run Your Business Like a Girl" | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

I would like to open a small marketing, advertising and public relations firm all in one. What would be my first step in the process?
Start with figuring out what would make you different from any other marketing firm and why clients would hire you. You might try writing a Web site first, as a way to get a handle on what your agency will be. Then start networking and try to land some client projects.

What advice can you give for someone who gets discouraged sometimes about starting a business?
Don't do it. It's not worth the headaches and hard work unless it's something you're really dying to do. It's not something you should force yourself into. Not everyone enjoys running their own business.

How do you tell a real business model from a pie-in-the-sky idea?
Pie-in-the-sky ideas are sometimes the best place to start, but you've got to make sure your idea is for something people really want to buy, in enough numbers to make you a living. I think the trick is to be passionate about your business, but also treat it like a business and not a hobby. Finding clients or customers is something you have to spend a lot of time and energy on. And you should think through the prices the market will bear, what it costs you in time and materials, who else is out there selling it and most importantly, what need do potential customers have that current companies aren't solving.

OK, you've got my interest piqued. What does "selling like a girl" mean?
Running your business like a girl means being true to who you are and not having to do it exactly like the business textbooks say to do it. Of the women entrepreneurs interviewed for the book, most put a higher importance on three things than men do: intuition, connecting with people and quality of life.

As a young woman, how can I get others to take me and my work seriously?
First, take yourself seriously. People are taking their cues from you. I wouldn't see being a young woman as a disadvantage, at all.

➜ Today on Live Online

11 A.M.: Post staff writer Yuki Noguchi hosts a discussion about online holiday shopping.

Letters

In Friedgen's Defense

TO SUGGEST THAT RALPH FRIEDGEN deserves the lion's share of the blame for Maryland's 5-5 record is wrong ("Cooling on the Terps' Fridge," Swengali, Nov. 23). However, to suggest that he hasn't been able to recruit is incredibly absurd. Maryland has more size, speed, talent and athleticism on its roster now than ever before. Maryland's misfortunes this year can be attributed to one factor: youth. Maryland has 60 players on its roster who have three-plus years of eligibility. Even if your theory had a shred of legitimacy, what exactly did former coach Ron Vanderlinden do with those players? Nothing. What Ralph Friedgen did in his first three years at U-Md. was nothing short of a miracle and fans should get down on their knees and be thankful that he's here. Do you know how many bowl games Frank Beamer went to in his first seven years at Tech? Zero. Friedgen has had three bowls in five years with three 10-win seasons and an ACC championship — at a school that had not been to a bowl or won more than five games in the 11 seasons prior to his arrival. So, please, get a clue.

—CHRIS DI ZEBBA
Arlington, Va.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

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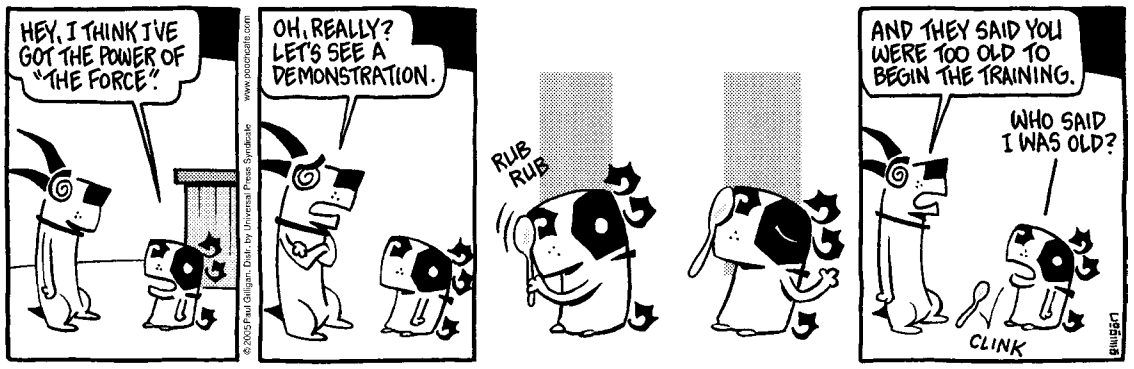
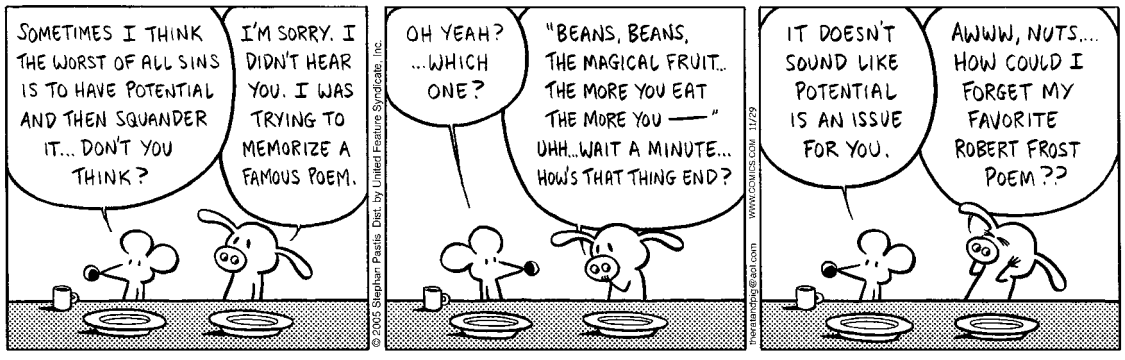
"The pen, too! Throw in the pen!"

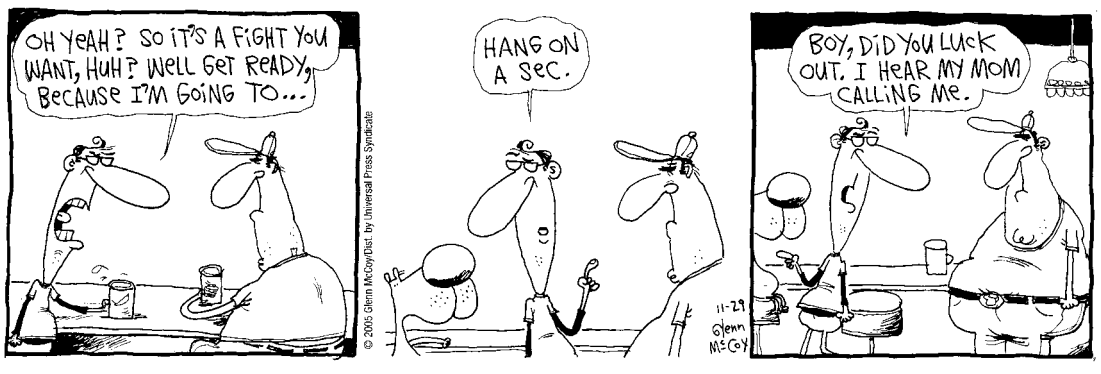
Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*



The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*



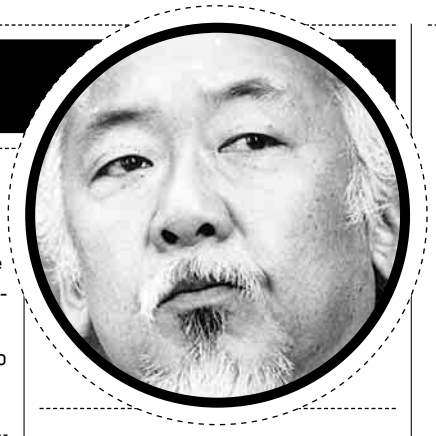
Look out

FRESH CATCHPHRASES

"You know it must be Cyber Monday because you have signed on to the server three times and gotten knocked off!"

SPACES.MSN.COM/MEMBERS/ANDSOITGOESON BATTLES CROWDS ON "CYBER MONDAY." THE FRESHLY COINED TERM DESCRIBES THE DAY AMERICANS GO BACK TO WORK AFTER THE LONG THANKSGIVING WEEKEND AND COMMENCE SHOPPING ONLINE.

THE Blog LOG



ROCK 'N' MEH

"He was a great jazz composer and arranger and a good trumpet player, but, really, [what] he did when he started hanging out with rock musicians sucked."

STEREOGUM.COM COMMENTER OBJECTS TO THE NOMINATION OF MILES DAVIS TO THE ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME.

THE ANTI-WASHINGTONIENNE

"This is the tale of a sassy twentysomething virgin gal who isn't hanging onto it for a higher purpose and won't lose it in a one night stand, thinking it would just vanish over the years."

NEW LOCAL BLOG **THECOUNTDOWNOFV.BLOGSPOT.COM** WILL CHRONICLE THE WRITER'S PATH TO DEFLORATION.

FICKLE WINDS OF FORTUNE

"I find it borderline funny that the 'Skins could have easily won this game, playing as inconsistently as they did against the Chargers, and people would be celebrating. One play and all of a sudden, they suck."

HAILREDSKINS.COM/BLOG ON SUNDAY'S REDSKINS V. CHARGERS GAME.

GOODBYE, SENSEI

"'Wax on, wax off' could be a phrase that encompasses an entire generation ... I find it hard to believe that there is a guy my age who didn't think in the mid-1980s that he could be a karate champion."

ONETRE.COM/WORDPRESS MOURNS THE PASSING OF ACTOR PAT MORITA.

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The things you most stand for may come under scrutiny from those who do not fully understand your motives or methods.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You are likely to come under fire for a judgment call made during the past few days. You can't please everyone. Don't back down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You can enjoy the exposure to something new and unusual. Keep your wits about you, however; you'll be called on to use them.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You may find yourself in a good position to oversee things. Be protective of those who are relying on you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Once you hit your stride, people will be impressed with your confidence, style and self-deprecating humor.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Your hopes for arriving at an important agreement will lead to a decision that proves pivotal. Don't give up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Avoid rhetorical speech. Make your words count and be sure to address those who can truly benefit from what you have to say.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Compatibility is certainly an issue. Seek common ground to build new agreements with both rivals and friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) When the facts don't support your worldview, personal magnetism and charm will see you through.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You have an opportunity to act on behalf of those who look to you for help. The time has come.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You are in no mood to be taken lightly. Present yourself and your plans as simply and directly as possible. Don't play games.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) It's a good time to advocate a way of thinking and acting that may challenge some — but will also benefit everyone who supports you.

express

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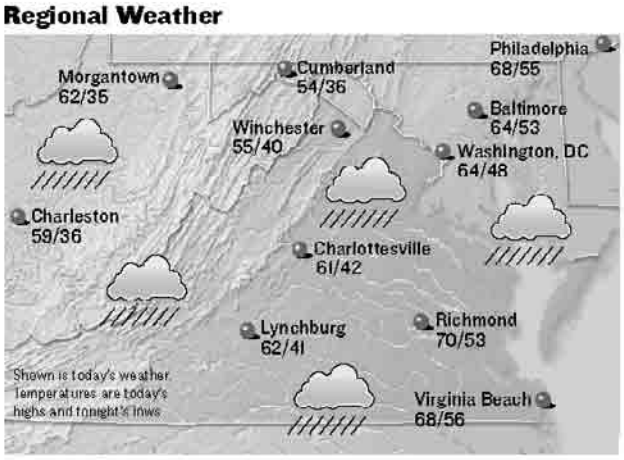
Certified Audit CAC of Circulations

DO impress people by knowing about local museum stuff. And, best of all, you can do it all from your computer, thanks to the Smithsonian's first blog, Eye Level (eyelevel.si.edu). Even if you're too lazy to actually go check everything out, read the blog, and you can trick people into thinking you're cultured.

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Windy, mild, heavy rain later	Heavy rain and thunder early	Becoming partly sunny, cooler	Partly sunny, chilly	Partly sunny, windy	Partly sunny, cold
64°	48°	55° / 36°	50° / 34°	48° / 28°	45° / 30°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2005

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Mon.

Temperature

High	68°
Low	47°
Normal high	53°
Normal low	37°
Average humidity	80%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.04"
Month to date	1.44"
Normal month to date	2.83"
Year to date	40.56"
Last year to date	39.42"
Normal year to date	36.10"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

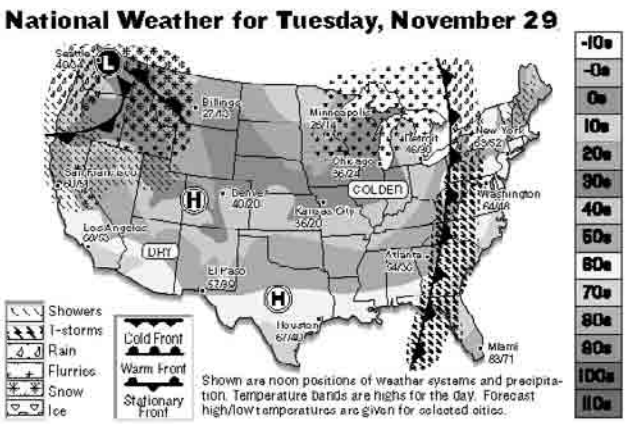
D.C. Metro: Today, cloudy, windy, warm, a shower early, heavy afternoon rain. High 64. Wind south-southeast 15-25 mph. Tonight, heavy rain. Low 48.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:06 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:47 p.m.
Moonrise today	4:56 a.m.
Moonset today	3:15 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Dec 1	Dec 8	Dec 15	Dec 23

National Weather for Tuesday, November 29



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	54/36/sh	58/36/s
Boston	60/52/c	60/46/r
Chicago	36/24/sf	38/27/pc
Dallas	59/37/s	66/46/s
Denver	40/20/pc	38/15/pc
Honolulu	82/69/sh	82/68/pc
Los Angeles	68/53/pc	70/53/pc
Miami	83/71/pc	82/64/sh
New York City	63/52/r	60/43/r
Orlando	78/57/t	70/52/pc
Seattle	40/34/r	40/30/pc

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Wed. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	43/37/c	45/34/sh
Athens	64/54/pc	63/57/c
Berlin	32/27/pc	36/27/pc
Buenos Aires	75/59/sh	68/57/pc
Calgary	11/4/sf	14/1/sf
Dublin	46/37/sh	47/46/sh
Geneva	37/34/sf	37/23/pc
Moscow	43/24/c	31/29/c
Rome	55/46/r	59/48/r
Sydney	66/62/r	70/68/pc
Tokyo	56/43/sh	59/44/pc

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

LOOK out

Seeking Silver Singles

Dating

Md. seniors pound the pavement and hit the Web looking for love

Forgive Charles Walsh if he's a little slow to join in the rounds of speed dating going on around him. Not only has the 55-year-old divorced father never tried speed dating — he hasn't been out at night except for work events in about a decade.

"I was married for 20 years, and now I'm nervous," said Walsh, who preferred to sip a Bud Light at the bar and watch as more than 50 older adults in this beachside town tried speed dating, where men and women are paired for a few minutes of get-to-know-you chat before switching partners.

Forget boring dinner parties. Older Americans looking for love have taken a cue from young urban singles and are flocking to speed-dating events and online personals sites. Match.com, a popular dating Web site, says registrations among people over 50 have soared 340 percent since 2000. The American Association of Retired Persons now has a dating advice column in its member magazine.

CHRIS GARDNER/AP

Donna Guildener, right, participates in a round of speed-dating in Berlin, Md.

On Maryland's Eastern Shore, where the roads are dotted with ads for new retirement communities, the changing senior dating scene is evident. The speed-dating event Walsh attended was put on by Mingling Singles, a group that's tripled its membership since its creation just two months ago. Another group near Ocean City, Beach Singles, has 150 members, all over the age of 45, with a new chapter planned in nearby Salisbury. The Merry Widows and Widowers Social Club also operates in Ocean City.

"The seniors are pouring down here," said Lois West, 71, secretary of Beach Singles. "They move here for the beach, but then they don't know anybody."

> "A widow in the olden days would sit inside and wear black. Today she's probably out dancing."
>
> **LOIS WEST**
> OF BEACH SINGLES, A SENIOR DATING GROUP NEAR OCEAN CITY, MD.

And they're not interested in old-fashioned socials.

"We're much more active. A widow in the olden days would sit inside and wear black. Today she's probably out dancing," West said.

The silver-haired singles scene on the Eastern Shore is likely to keep growing. Eight of nine counties on the shore have a greater proportion of people over 65 than Maryland as a whole, according to the Census Bureau. In Talbot and Worcester counties, more than one in five residents are now over 65, compared to about 11.3 percent for the state as a whole.

At the speed-dating event, some attendees said their grown children pushed them to attend. Others said they were sick of tagging along with friends who are couples or were tired of trying to find love in a bar.

"As soon as my 31-year-old daughter heard about it, she was like, 'Oh, Mom, you have to go,'" said JoAnn Collinson, 52, a widow from Bishopville who said she's looking as much for companionship as romance.

The matchmaking industry is catching on to the dating interests of older adults. Some dating Web sites now have special seniors-only areas. Spark Networks, based in Los Angeles, started SilverSingles.com last year, and the site now has about 600,000 members. Another of its dating sites, PrimeSingles.net has another 13,000 members.

Seniors are more comfortable than they used to be with the Internet, and they're finding that online dating lets them take their time choosing a possible mate, said Kathleen Roldan, spokeswoman for San Francisco-based Match.com.

"Fifty-five and over is our fastest-growing segment," Roldan said. "As we get older, the pool of eligible people we have to choose from gets smaller and smaller. And the bar scene is not attractive."

Even if they don't find love quickly, senior singles enjoy the activities more often associated with younger people, West said. And if romance comes later, they'll be ready.

"Hope," she said, "springs eternal." KRISTEN WYATT (AP)

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MCSE Windows 2003	January 10

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Styles | Look out

IMITATE THE ROYALS on a proletariat budget with a replica Fabergé egg pendant in enamel, crystal and vermeil. **($150, HILLWOOD MUSEUM SHOP, 4155 LINNEAN AVE. NW; 202-686-8510)**

LATTER-DAY ANNA KARENINAS can vamp it up in Trina Turk's folkloric-yet-sexy silk dress. The purple, crimson and pink botanical print recalls khokhloma, a colorful type of Russian wood-enameling. **($265, WINK, 3109 M ST. NW; 202-338-9465)**

Czar Quality

File UNDER Fad

Though D.C.'s got *nyet* on Moscow when it comes to frosty weather, lush czarist looks are both fashionable and downright toasty right now. "Clothes were very decadent and glamorous before the revolution," says Irene Pearson of therussianstore.com. So say *da* to fur trim, folksy Ukrainian prints and fit-for-an-empress baubles. Just don't blame us if the peasants seem envious. JENNIFER BARGER

WHAT'S AS WARM as a shot of vodka? A traditional fox fur hat made in the motherland. **($290, THERUSSIANSTORE.COM)**

INSPIRED BY RUSSIAN FAIRY TALES, designer Cynthia Steffe whipped up fall pieces such as the rabbit fur-trimmed "Vladimir" jacket **($550)** and matching pleated skirt **($440)**. "The details — trim, ruching and pleating — make these clothes romantic without being too glitzy," says **GIRLSHOP.COM**'s Amanda Doll.

FARRYLROBIN'S SUEDE Milkmaid pumps are an ultra-femme foil for harder-line Russian styles like military jackets. **($145, SHOE ADDICT, SHOPS AT GEORGETOWN PARK, 3222 M ST. NW; 202-337-7463)**

Beauty

Magic Mushrooms

Unlike most cosmetic products, Origins' new **PLANTIDOTE MEGA-MUSHROOM SUPPLEMENT** ($35, Origins stores) is meant to be ingested. Concocted by Dr. Andrew Weil (he of many bestselling tomes on integrative medicine), the stuff mixes herb and mushroom extracts to purportedly defend skin against aging. It does not taste like mushrooms, but like concentrated orange juice. The companion **FACE SERUM** ($65) is spicy, woodsy and bracing, like a hippie aftershave. It's impossible to say whether either slowed aging in a mere week, but our tester's skin felt healthier, which is way better than younger. HOLLY J. MORRIS (EXPRESS)

Holidays

The Executive Branch

Deck your boughs of holly (or folly, depending on your party affiliation) with the **2005 WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT** ($16, white househistory.org). Every year the trinket is different; this one commemorates President James Garfield, who "attacked political corruption and restored a measure of prestige that the presidency had lost." Let's hope this little gold-plated holiday wish comes true. SARA ATWATER (EXPRESS)

Getting Married? Express is seeking couples with weddings or commitment ceremonies taking place in the next six months for B.I.O. (By Invitation Only), a new page of couple profiles that runs Friday. Please send your favorite informal photo (wacky is fine, professionally shot is not), plus your name, contact info and the ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. Then we'll contact you with some questions. Our space is limited, but we'll do our best to include as many as we can. Also, please don't send any original photos, because we can't return them.

Look out | People

MARTIN CLEAVER/AP

"Yes, Rod, you've told me lately."

YOUTH

Another Child Will Keep Him Forever Young

At age 60, **ROD STEWART** is a father again. Fiancee **PENNY LANCASTER** gave birth to a baby boy early Sunday morning at a London hospital, the couple announced Monday. "Both Penny and our baby son are gorgeous, healthy and doing well," said Stewart. "It means so much to Rod and I that we were able to keep to our birthing plan and have our baby naturally," said Lancaster, 34. (AP)

FLEEING COUNTRY

Chesney Spotted Alive After 'Zellweger Incident'

The two homes of country music star **KENNY CHESNEY** mingled as the Tennessee native watched the Lady Vols play in his adopted Caribbean home at the Paradise Jam tournament Saturday night in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. The 37-year-old singer owns a home about a mile from St. Thomas. (AP)

CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP

REUNIFICATIONS

Frenemies Forever

Feuding ex-friends **PARIS HILTON** and **NICOLE RICHIE** will take "The Simple Life" to E! Entertainment Television in a new format that allows them to work without ever laying eyes on each other. E! said Monday it would show 10 new episodes starting next spring. The incompatible pair will take turns playing a "wife" and running households, with the family involved each week deciding which of the two did a better job. (AP)

FAME

Cleveland Reminds America It Exists

It's amazing what plastic surgery can and can't do.

Black Sabbath, Miles Davis and the Sex Pistols are among five musical legends to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Foundation will hold its induction ceremony March 13 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in Manhattan, the organization announced Monday. Also to be inducted into the class of 2006: 1980s New Wave band **BLONDIE** and Southern rockers Lynyrd Skynyrd. Herb Alpert and Jerry Moss, who founded A&M records in 1962, will receive a lifetime achievement award in the non-performer category. (AP)

SUSPECT QUOTES

'... As a Trashy Studio Sex Comedy,' Julie Continued

Julie Andrews says **CAMERON DIAZ** would be the perfect choice to play Maria if "The Sound of Music" is ever remade. At a question-and-answer session in London celebrating the 40th anniversary of the film, Andrews said, "I miss singing very, very much, but the best thing is I have never been busier." She had to give up musical roles because of throat problems. (AP)

MARRIED LIFE

The Horror of the Combined Anniversary-Christmas Gift

ELTON JOHN says he and his partner **DAVID FURNISH** will seal their civil partnership on Dec. 21, the effective date of British legislation that will create civil partnerships. "It'll be a very small family affair and then in the evening there'll be a soiree somewhere, which we have yet to work out," John said in an interview with Attitude magazine. "But the ceremony itself will be David's parents and my parents and the two of us. ... Out of respect for their support, we want to just keep it small," John said. (AP)

REUTERS

Sorry, Rocco and Lourdes. Uncle Elton doesn't want a flower girl or ring bearer.

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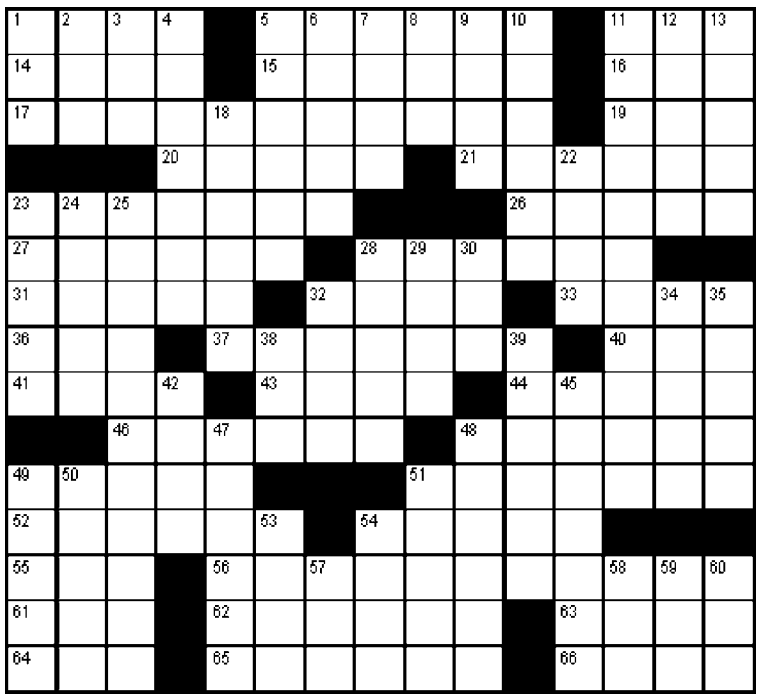
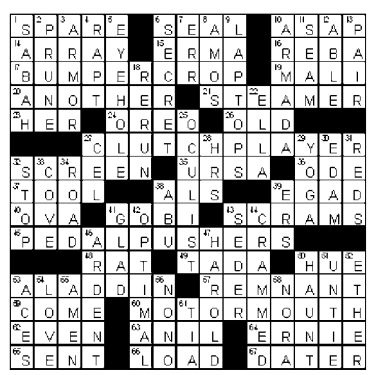


ACROSS
1 Sharp taste
5 California volcanic peak
11 Kind of temper or treatment
14 Controversial apple spray
15 Dowager
16 Place for a pit stop in London?
17 Iterative
19 Fleur-de-___
20 Choral work
21 Professor's protection
23 Bawled out
26 Light in a light show, perhaps
27 High-society hors d'oeuvre
28 Expeditious
31 "___ we all?"
32 Supplication
33 Times of note
36 Links standard
37 They probably think this song is about them
40 Tax-deferred nest egg
41 Abbr. at the end of a list, perhaps
43 Football strategy
44 Not easy to get close to
46 Official witness, of a kind
48 Sentence fragment
49 Guts
51 Water flowers
52 Comes to mind
54 Homo erectus, for one
55 Classic car
56 Hardworking
61 Subject of this puzzle's theme
62 Seattle landmark
63 He sang with Crosby
64 CIA forerunner
65 Physiological property
66 Type of matter

DOWN
1 Creosote source
2 Andy Capp beverage
3 Preschooler's dread, sometimes
4 Troublemaker of folklore
5 Hard hitter, biblically
6 Detested
7 "Look __ this way ..."
8 Sign for a sellout
9 Racetrack tipster
10 Saint and a founder of scholasticism
11 Renowned
12 France's longest river
13 Short straw drawer, e.g.
18 So far
22 Scruff of the neck
23 Land's end?
24 Jeweler's 200 milligrams
25 Excessively distressed
28 Either of two noted Roman authors
29 Part of R&R
30 Nibble for a nag
32 Serve the tea
34 "___ by any other name ..."
35 Some are cracked
38 3.50, e.g.
39 Cracker factory employee or winter road worker, perhaps
42 Hi's mate
45 Exalting
47 Preparing to kick or drive
48 Chopper
49 "Super" one of Nintendo games
50 Black and white cookies
51 Glove thread, perhaps
53 Olden dagger
54 Melville's Billy
57 Place for thieves?
58 Row with the flow
59 It's in the center of Jerusalem?
60 Skittish

Yesterday's Solution



Today in History

1864 A Colorado militia killed at least 150 peaceful Cheyenne Indians in the Sand Creek Massacre.

1929 Navy Lt. Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd radioed that he'd made the first airplane flight over the South Pole.

1947 The U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the partitioning of Palestine between Arabs and Jews.

1964 The U.S. Roman Catholic Church instituted sweeping changes in the liturgy, including the use of English instead of Latin.

2001 Former Beatle George Harrison died in Los Angeles following a battle with cancer; he was 58.

Su|do|ku | *© Puzzles by Pappocom*

Degree of Difficulty: MEDIUM

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

		8			2	1		
			9	4			5	
			8				6	4
5	3	2						
				1				
						2	9	8
2	7				8			
	1			9	6			
		6	5			7		

Yesterday's Solution

1	6	3	2	7	8	5	9	4
9	5	7	3	1	4	6	2	8
4	8	2	5	6	9	7	3	1
8	1	9	6	5	7	2	4	3
5	7	4	8	2	3	1	6	9
3	2	6	9	4	1	8	7	5
2	9	1	7	3	5	4	8	6
7	4	8	1	9	6	3	5	2
6	3	5	4	8	2	9	1	7

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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